

VALLEY STAR

VOLUME 60, ISSUE No. 8

NOVEMBER 12, 2003

LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

How Many Classes?

■ Budget cuts will not prevent 2004 Winter intersession.

By TIFFANY FARMAKIS

STAFF WRITER

Students at Valley College have lost many things due to the budget constraints; luckily the winter intersession will not be one of them.

"To continue is important for me," student Anna Guardado said. "I need the extra credits to get my GED and go on to nursing school."

Even with the tuition increase, further reduction of classes and social services, Valley administrators feared that the college wouldn't be able to afford the winter intersession.

"It's heart-wrenching," said Jeanne Rubin, executive assistant to the president. "You know your student body depends on this, but you don't know if you can afford it."

It costs approximately \$15,000 a week just to operate the basic utilities needed to keep the school open, according to Rubin. Fortunately for students, a winter intersession will be offered.

The 2004 winter session will run from Jan. 5 to Feb. 7. Registration begins on Nov. 13;

See *Winter* page 6

An Interview with Arianna Huffington

■ Speech and book signing at Jewish Community Center kicks off series of "Five Provocative Speakers."

By MICHAEL ORDOÑA

OPINION EDITOR

Although Arianna Huffington is probably best known as one of the candidates in California's recent recall election, she has a long-standing reputation for her broad knowledge and acerbic wit as a nationally-syndicated columnist, commentator and radio and television personality.

Huffington is the author of nine books including the recent bestsellers, "How to Overthrow the Government" and "Pigs at the Trough: How Corporate Greed and Political Corruption Are Undermining America," as well as respected biographies of Pablo Picasso and Maria Callas. She earned a master's degree in economics from Cambridge University, during which time she also served as the president of the Cambridge Debating Society.



FILE PHOTO

See *Arianna* page 6

VETERANS REMEMBERED



VETERAN'S DAY - Life member David E. Lawton from Burbank attended the 44th Annual Veteran's Day Ceremony Tuesday at Forest Lawn in Hollywood Hills.

JORGE GALLEGOS/VALLEY STAR

Students Mentor Foster Children at Special Event

■ More than 3,200 community college members attend Day of the Child

By SUSAN MALTBY

STAFF WRITER

Seven-year-old Chris said Sunday at Pierce College's Shepard Stadium was the best day of his life.

"This is better than going to the carnival because I get to do everything I want, and [I] have a new friend," Chris said. Chris was one of the 2,200 foster-care children that participated in the Children Uniting Nations Day of the Child. The children were matched with a similar amount of college students and others who tied to make the day special.

His claim is quite plausible, considering that Chris is a 7-year-old foster-care child. Foster children frequently move from home to home and rarely have their own possessions or a family or adult relative to care for them.

Children Uniting Nations, a California-based non-



TAMMY ABBOTT/VALLEY STAR

CHILDREN'S DAY - Valley president Tyree Wieder looks on as Igor Kagan, ASU public affairs commissioner, shows 9-year-old Kimberly a duck at the Day of the Child at Pierce Sunday.

profit, non-partisan group dedicated to raising global awareness of children's rights organizations, sponsored the one-day event. The organization has joined forces with Gov. Gray Davis to create a vast mentoring program with the hope of enticing college students and community members to adopt a child for a day and commit to becoming a long-term mentor by spending two days a month with them. Legislation has been introduced to the U.S. Senate that would authorize financial assistance to public-private partnerships to provide mentoring for foster children.

During the orienta-

See *Mentor* page 6

Employee ID System Stalled

■ Immediate response to fingerprints could save thousands of dollars in hiring costs.

By JACQUI BROWN

STAFF WRITER

Valley College has a finger-printing machine that could prevent criminals from being hired, but the equipment has never been used to safeguard the campus.

Postsecondary institutions are hiring people whose records aren't in accordance with the district's hiring guidelines, according to Troy Verrett, the principle employee relations specialist, who oversees employee applications for the Los Angeles Community College District.

"We send fingerprint cards to the Department of Justice and it may be months before they report back to us," Verrett said. "We need to tighten up the system and make it easier to fingerprint everyone and get results much quicker."

Verrett said that he has received applications back from the DOJ after they had completed their background checks that reveal some of these employees haven't been truthful and forthcoming on their application. These classified employees will now be subject to disciplinary actions, up to and including termination, months after being hired, trained and are receiving paychecks from the district.

"If a person is still in the system, they will be dismissed," Verrett said. "We need to do something about this and get live scan up and running."

The Sheriff's Department at Valley College can't use the live scan machine for finger-

printing. The college can't use it for processing applications for classified staff.

"The Department of Justice gave us this \$30,000 machine and it's just sitting there," said Deputy Randy Tuinstra, head of campus security. "I think it would benefit the school financially to have this up and running."

The live scan machine, which can produce fingerprint and background checks in as little as 30 minutes, has been sitting in the Sheriff's Department for close to a year now. Its only use so far has been training officers on how to get a clear print, according to Tuinstra.

Neither administration nor the Sheriff's Department can pinpoint what has held up the process to get the machines running and in use.

Tom Jacobsmeier, vice president of administration, has been pursuing the answer to this question recently and has contacted the DOJ to find out what the problem is with the live scan.

"The district's requirement is kind of hamstrung on how fast the state moves right now," Jacobsmeier said. "We don't have any other process at the moment."

Jacobsmeier admitted there is a hole in the system's time frame and would like to see a more timely response to fingerprinting. Live Scan would give the district the ability to do so.

"Our school is very inter-

See *ID* page 7

Rape Suspect Faces New Charges

■ Evidence links assailant to second rape.

By JACQUI BROWN

STAFF WRITER

The man accused of lewd conduct at Valley College and the rape of a 47-year-old student at Pierce College has been linked by DNA evidence to another sexual assault, according to police.

As a result, 24-year-old Juan Pablo Lopez of Lakeview Terrace was in Van Nuys Superior Court Friday to face charges stemming from a 2002 Porter Ranch rape including kidnapping, false imprisonment, robbery, assault with the intent to commit a felony and sexual assault.

Lopez is currently awaiting trial for raping a student at gunpoint in the bathroom of Pierce's life science building in January 2001. At the time, he was employed at Pierce as a lifeguard.

Lopez has a long list of arrests dating as far back as 1997 for lewd conduct and indecent exposure. Through plea bargaining, he was able to avoid conviction and being registered as a sexual predator.

"The investigation is ongoing with Mr. Lopez," said Sheriff's

Department Detective Steve Gutierrez. "We expect to identify additional victims."

Lopez was originally arrested on Sept. 4, 2003 on two counts of lewd conduct and indecent exposure after one witness saw him masturbating in the women's locker room at Pierce and another saw him masturbating at Valley's pool, just yards away from approximately 300 children during a summer camp session. Both eyewitnesses identified him through a picture lineup. DNA testing, done after a Sheriff's Department detective supervisor notified the Los Angeles Police Department detectives responsible for the investigation about an unsolved 2001 rape at Pierce, showed a match.

He is being held at the North County Correctional Facility in Saugus on bail of \$1.36 million. His next court appearance is scheduled for Dec. 8.

Anyone with information regarding Lopez and/or related crimes is urged to call the Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery/Homicide Division at (818) 756-8309, or the Sheriff's Department's Community College Bureau at (323) 669-7561.

VALLEY LIFE PG. 4 OHM ROCKS HARD

A VALLEY STUDENT FRONTS THE BAND OHM, WHO PERFORMED THURSDAY AT THE HARD ROCK CAFE.

SPORTS PG. 8 FOOTBALL WOES

VALLEY MONARCHS LOSE EIGHTH CONSECUTIVE GAME TO VENTURA PIRATES WITH ONLY ONE GAME TO GO.

GALLERY PG. 10 DAY OF THE CHILD

IRENE KALENTS DOCUMENTS CHILD MENTORING AT THE DAY OF THE CHILD AT PIERCE COLLEGE SUNDAY.

NEWS REEL

U.S. VOWS TO CRACK DOWN ON INSURGENTS IN IRAQ:

"We will not hesitate to employ the appropriate levels of combat power," the U.S. commander, Army Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, said at a briefing for reporters.

Sanchez acknowledged that attacks on coalition forces have increased despite the recent spate of U.S. raids.

"The trend has gone up. It was in the mid-teens about 60 days ago, and it is now about 30 to 35 engagements in a day," he said.

The total number of U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq since May 27 has reached 247.

SCHWARZENEGGER CONSIDERS \$20B LOAN:

In a major reversal, Gov.-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger's financial team announced that it was considering borrowing \$20 billion to help cope with the 2004 Californian budget deficit.

THE "HONEYMOON" IS OVER - ACTOR ART CARNEY DIES AT 85:

Best known for his role as Norton on the beloved TV series, "The Honeymooners," Carney had been ill for some time. The actor won an Oscar in 1974 for "Harry in Tonto."

THE "MATRIX" RULES:

"Matrix Revolutions" overcame dismal reviews to score more than \$85 million domestically. The film was released simultaneously in many major world markets to combat piracy. Its global take neared \$200 million after only five days. The Will Farrell comedy, "Elf" held the second spot.

O, CANADA:

Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Roy Halladay won the American League Cy Young Award.

Dean's Reception for Top-Achieving Students

■ Valley College honors students who made the Dean's List.

BY TIFFANY FARMAKIS
STAFF WRITER

More than 300 Valley College students, family members and faculty attended the Dean's Reception Thursday in Monarch Hall where students were honored for their academic achievements.

Students must maintain at least a 3.5 GPA to make the Dean's List. The President's Honors List honors students who've been on the Dean's List for at least three consecutive semesters. Each honoree received a gold pin and stage recognition.

"I've had very good experiences at Valley," psychology student Lisa Niehaus said. "All the hard work was worth the effort.

I've learned skills that I can use for life."

The Presidential honoree also added that there were several other schools she could have gone to, but chose Valley because of its encouraging staff.

"My statistics teacher, Michael Gardner, is an inspiration," Niehaus said. "He's so energetic about teaching, it encourages people to learn — myself included."

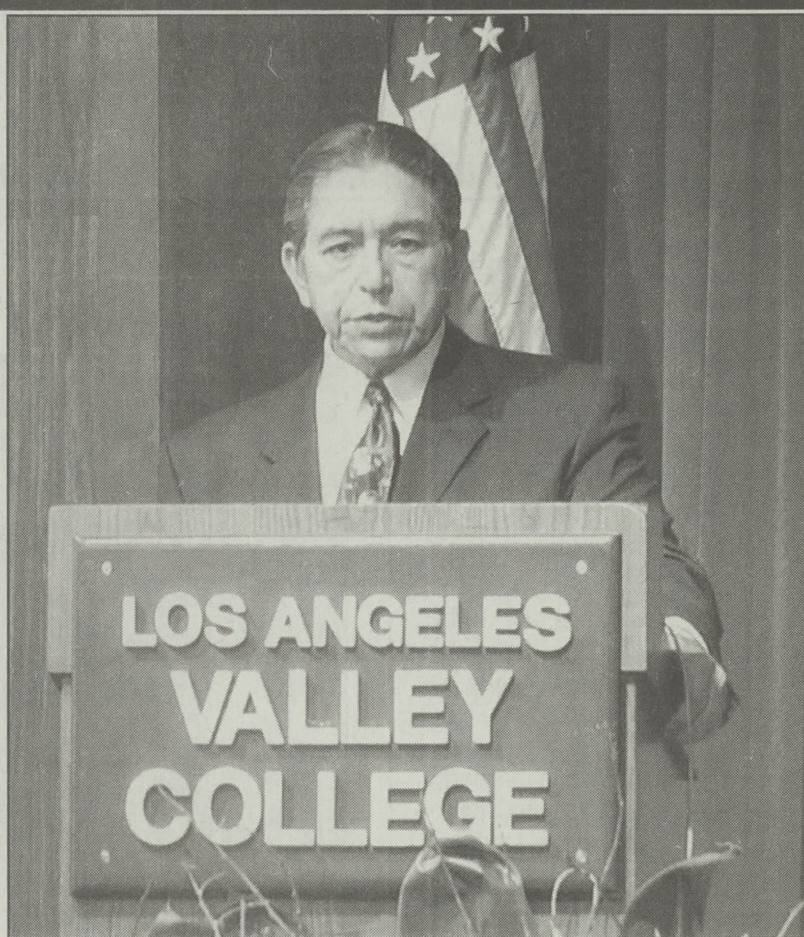
The event, sponsored by the Associated Student Union, featured Campus Center showcases displaying the names of those honored. Treats prepared by the cooking class and the serenade of piano music performed by student musician David Damiani added to the rewarding ceremony.

ASU President James Brevard kicked off the commemoration with a welcoming speech. The audience greeted the honorees with loud applause.

"I'd like to extend my personal congratulations," Vice President of Academic Affairs Charlie Tronto said. Tronto commended the honorees and advised them to keep up the good work.

Guest speaker Dominick Rubalcava, president of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, inspired audience members with a tale of his own journey to success. Rubalcava started out as a garbage collector and admitted it took a while before he realized the benefit of

See Dean's page 7



GABY ALONSO/VALLEY STAR

AH, SCHOOL DAYS - President of Los Angeles DWP Dominick Rubalcava speaks about time as a Valley College student at Monarch Hall.

Print This: Pre-Paid Printing Program Begins

BY TAMMY ABBOTT
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

Printing often takes the place of a pencil or pen on paper in this age of runaway technology.

Due to numerous requests, a pre-paid printing program will begin November 17.

Students can use printers for 8 cents per page.

The program will take off in the CCAIVE, Lair, Writing Center and Lion's Den computer labs and may expand to other computer labs at a later date, depending on the program's success.

Printing will cost 8 cents per page and there will be no limit on the number of pages.

Funds can be loaded onto Monarch ID cards at one of two cash-to-print terminals. One such terminal is in Monarch Hall beside the ATM machine and another in the Lair.

Up to \$20 can be loaded onto a card.

An account can be set up with a Monarch card and a four-digit password at one of the cash-to-print machines.

Once the funds are loaded, the Monarch card can be used at one of the aforementioned labs to print from any computer.

Administrators advise that students keep their receipts for funds loaded onto cards in case there are any problems accessing the funds.

For more detailed information visit www.lavc.edu.

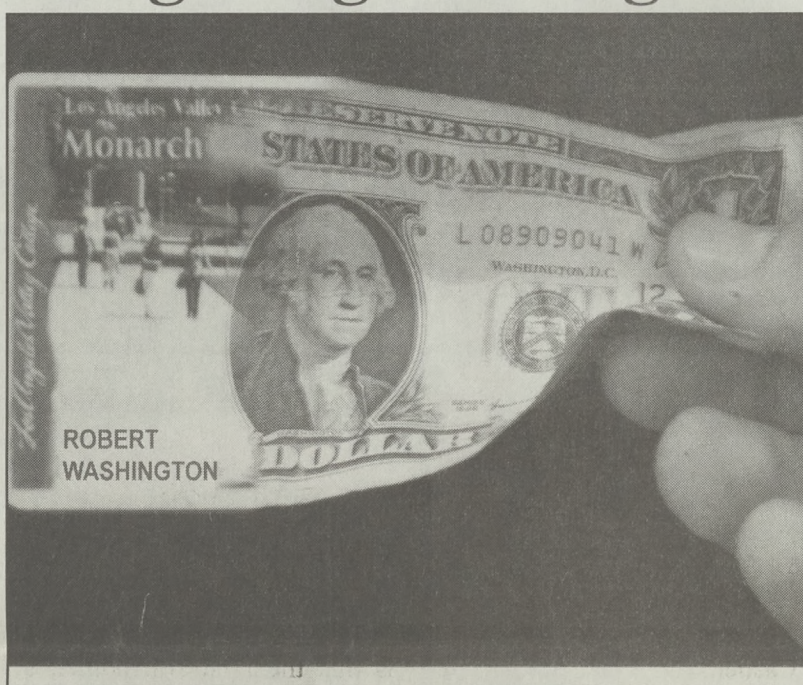


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY BENJAMIN FAVELA AND BOB TEICHMANN/VALLEY STAR

Protesters Awarded

■ Valley's vice president of student services honored.

BY JACQUI BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Yasmin Delahoussaye and Jessica Salazar, two key figures in organizing the protest against budget cuts last year, have received the Community College League "Keeping The Beat" Award.

The award recognized the two for going above and beyond their job requirements and the usual commitment to excellence in creating a positive environment for students.

"The rally, to me, meant that more people would be able to voice their concerns," said Delahoussaye, vice president of student services. "It was a way to bring the issues to the attention of the general public."

Delahoussaye said that out of 108 college candidates, it was hard to believe she and Salazar, a former Associated Student Union parliamentarian, had been singled out for this award.

More than 4,000 students converged on the streets of Los Angeles in May to protest \$228 million in state budget cuts for

community colleges, sending a powerful message to Gov. Gray Davis and other politicians expected to reign in the purse strings on higher education.

Students from across Southern California gathered at Pershing Square and marched to Gov. Davis' office to give Sacramento a clear and concise message. The community college student body proved to be a force to be reckoned with and would under no circumstances take the budget cuts sitting down.

Salazar took on the role of student leader as chair of the rally's organizing committee. She said she was impressed by how much media coverage the protest got, but thought that after it was over that would be the last she'd hear about it.

"I'm very excited about the award," Salazar said. "I couldn't believe it when they called me at work to tell me."

Both Delahoussaye and Salazar will be awarded at a luncheon in Oakland Nov. 22. A video of the protest will be shown and should be available at a later date.

ASU Protests Changes to Grade Grievance Committee

■ Faculty Union and LACCD Board propose regulation changes to decrease student representation on committee.

BY SUSAN MALTBY
STAFF WRITER

District and faculty union powers are proposing several regulation changes that would stifle student voices on the Grade Grievance Committee. Under Los Angeles Community College District regulations, the controversial grade grievance rules fall under section E-55.

"Students have to fight to keep their voices on this committee year after year," said James Brevard, Associated Student Union president, "and it looks like we'll have to continue." Brevard expressed his concern about the new regulations at Thursday's ASU meeting and said "it's vitally important that students have a voice on the grade grievance committee. It is completely unwar-

ranted for them to remove student representation."

A proposed change to E-55 would reduce student representation on the decision-making board from two to one. In another proposal, the district hopes to add more faculty members to the board, a move that student leaders see as a power grab to diminish student votes on the committee.

Student leaders sent a formal letter expressing opposition to the changes. "We received a letter from Inter-Club Council Senate Representative Oleg Kagan. He made a very clear and articulate statement on behalf of students in opposition to this policy change. I am opposed to it myself," said Kay Divine, Valley compliance officer. Divine expressed that, although the current regulation definitely has quirks, some

of the E-55 changes might prolong the grade grievance process for students.

Under the current regulation students have 30 days to file a grade grievance, providing proof that the instructor made an error in grading, acted in bad faith, committed fraud or was incompetent. The burden of proof rests on the student.

Associate Vice-Chancellor John Clerx has been pushing for these revisions for about five years, according to Divine. "These revisions have been in limbo since I arrived three and a half years ago," Divine said. "With the proposition to have only four people on the board, how would they break a tie?"

The Faculty Union's GGC resolution to decrease student

See Grievance page 7

Immigration Rules Discourage Foreign Students

■ Enrollment continues to decline.

BY JACQUI BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Tougher immigration rules and visa requirements are keeping foreign students away from U.S. colleges, according to a study released by the Institute of International Education.

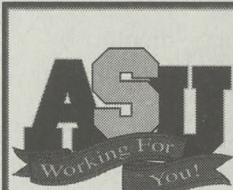
"International educational exchange has never been more important for the United States," said Allan E. Goodman, president and CEO of the IIE. "Foreign students bring intellectual, economic and cultural benefits to our campuses and

communities."

International students contribute nearly \$12 billion to the U. S. economy in money spent on tuition, living expenses and related costs. The U. S. Department of Commerce data describes U. S. higher education as the country's fifth largest service sector export.

California is the leading state for foreign student enrollment. The University of Southern California continues to be the leading host institu-

See Foreign page 7



Open Position:
Chief Justice

Apply in
Campus Center 102
(818) 778-5516

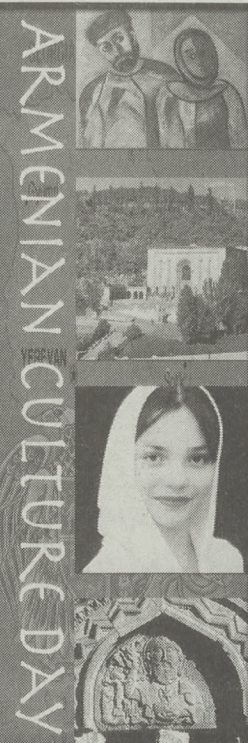
CLUB DAY
Celebrate Armenian Culture Day
Wednesday, November 12th
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Check out our campus clubs!

Food! Fun! Music!



This event is wheelchair accessible. Individuals needing sign-language interpreters, assisted listening devices, large print, Braille materials or any other accommodations should contact Associated Student Union at (818) 947-2702.



VALLEY STAR

STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
KRISTA CARLSON

LAYOUT EDITOR
ONLINE EDITOR
BOB TEICHMANN

NEWS EDITOR
PHILLIP ROBERTSON

OPINION EDITOR
MICHAEL ORDOÑA

VALLEY LIFE EDITOR
TAMMY ABBOTT

SPORTS EDITOR
JAYSON ADDCOX

PHOTO EDITOR
BENJAMIN FAVELA

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
JORDAN DINAPOLI

COPY EDITORS
KATHARINE ANDERSON
KATHY ARELLANO

EDITORIAL CARTOONIST
TIFFANY FARMAKIS

STAFF WRITERS
JACQUI BROWN
VINCENT BRUCIA
MARJORIE JOYCE HALL
DANIEL KANE
JONATHAN MAKIRI
SUSAN MALTBY
CAROL MORALES
LAGINA PHILLIPS
PETER O'CONNOR
HARRIET STEINBERG

PHOTOGRAPHERS
TAMMY ABBOTT
SALVADOR AGUILAR
GABY ALONSO
WENDY ALVARADO
BETH DOWELL
JORGE GALLEGOS
IRENE KALENTS
BOB TEICHMANN

ADVERTISING MANAGER
NANCY KENNEDY

ADVISERS
BILL DAUBER
ROD LYONS
TheValleyStar@yahoo.com
www.LAValleyStar.com
(818) 947-2576

The Valley Star is published by students of the Journalism and Photography classes as a learning experience, offered under the college journalism instructional program. Editorial and Advertising Offices are located at 5800 Fulton Avenue, Valley Glen, CA 91401, (818) 947-2576. Under appropriate state and federal court decisions these materials are free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Materials published herein, including any opinions expressed and advertisements should not be interpreted as the position of the Los Angeles Community College District, the college, or any office or employee thereof. Editorials are the opinion of the editorial board only and do not necessarily represent those of the entire paper staff. Columns are the personal opinion of the writer. Letters are the personal opinions of the reader.

OPINION

3

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER

EACH WEEK, THE VALLEY STAR EXAMINES AN ISSUE FROM TWO SIDES. THIS WEEK: AFTER UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING STUDENT MATTHEW SHEPARD WAS KILLED IN AN ANTI-GAY HATE CRIME IN 1998, REV. FRED PHELPS BROUGHT SOME OF HIS FOLLOWERS FROM KANSAS TO PICKET SHEPARD'S FUNERAL AND THE TRIAL OF HIS KILLERS. THEIR SIGNS BORE SUCH SLOGANS AS, "MATTHEW IS IN HELL" AND "GOD HATES FAGS." FIVE YEARS LATER, PHELPS HAS RETURNED TO WYOMING. IN SHEPARD'S HOMETOWN OF CASPER, THE CITY COUNCIL HAS DECLARED CASPER CITY PARK A FREE SPEECH ZONE IN ORDER TO KEEP A 38-YEAR-OLD TEN COMMANDMENTS MONUMENT THERE. PHELPS HAS SEIZED ON THIS MEASURE PROTECTING RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION ON PUBLIC LANDS TO PROPOSE A MONUMENT CELEBRATING — NOT MOURNING — SHEPARD'S MURDER. ITS PLAQUE WOULD READ, "MATTHEW SHEPARD — ENTERED HELL OCTOBER 12, 1998, IN DEFIANCE OF GOD'S WARNING: 'THOU SHALT NOT LIE WITH MANKIND AS WITH WOMANKIND; IT IS ABOMINATION.' LEVITICUS 18:22."

SHOULD PHELPS' ANTI-GAY MONUMENT BE STOPPED?

WHEN RIGHTS ARE WRONG

By PETER O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Fred Phelps seeks to exploit and pervert one of our most sacred rights — the right to free speech — to foster hatred and inflict further harm upon the people of Matthew Shepard's hometown. This harms every one of us.

The issue seems rather absurd and unlikely, but with the city of Casper trying to retain a monument to the Ten Commandments which has been in City Park since 1965, the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that any city that displays such a monument on public property must also allow displays espousing the views of other religions or political groups on that same property.

"The fact that Reverend Phelps would come into Casper and try and put that filth under the guise of the Ten Commandments is total idiocy," said Casper Mayor Barb Peryam on MSNBC.

Casper, home to about 50,000 residents, wants to say no to Phelps but may not be able to. Legal experts say the city invited other monuments when it put up the Ten Commandments in a public park.

"By putting the Ten Commandments in the park, they created a sort of public forum for speech and debate," writes First Amendment specialist Tom Goldstein on the MSNBC website. "And once the city does that, it can't discriminate against other viewpoints, no matter how hateful."

It is a disgusting matter and one hopes that this demon Phelps can be stopped from walking into Casper and smearing it with his hate. Sad to say these conservative, Republican-voting, mind-your-own-business Westerners located in Wyoming's energy-rich central plains might have no say in the issue.

One proposed solution is to move the Ten Commandments monument onto private property or to sell the park to citizens. Alternately, the monument could be returned to its original donors, the Fraternal Order of the Eagles and the free speech zone rescinded.

Life would go on and people would always remember the atrocity that occurred on Oct. 12, 1998.

But Phelps told the Casper City Council in a recent letter that if it attempts to prevent him from erecting the homophobic monument he's prepared to go to court. If he is unable to put the statue in City Park he said he will find another location in

WHY BAD ANGELS MUST HAVE THEIR SAY

By MICHAEL ORDONA
OPINION EDITOR

What Fred Phelps wants to do is obviously sick. It enrages me; it makes me physically ill.

However, to halt his efforts would be to cross a line over which there may be no return. This is a truly thorny test of the convictions of anyone who believes in free speech.

What is so difficult to accept in the face of Phelps' deranged self-righteousness

writes Paul McMasters of The First Amendment Center. "[Anti-hate speech laws] would be enacted with the best of intentions and executed with the worst of results ... They would divert public dialogue from a focus on a fair society to a preoccupation with censorship ... They would lay a veneer of civility over a community seething with tension."

Is Phelps' plan disgusting? Yes. Is Phelps a psychopath? Probably (a psychiatrist I know guesses that Phelps is a Type C personality marked by pathological rigidity and cognitive distortions such as black-and-white thinking).

Is he within his rights? Apparently.

It's the same principle that makes it legal for the Ku Klux Klan to march in the streets with the proper permits.

And for people to burn flags, listen to Eminem, look at Robert Mapplethorpe's photography and read banned books.

And it's the same principle that allows San Francisco to hold a Gay Pride Parade every year.

To legislate against hate speech is to enter a deep, dark thicket. For one thing, to set these protections down as law, those potentially oppressed must be identified.

According to McMasters, "An Oregon law includes along with the traditional criteria such designations as political party, purchasing power, union membership, social standing, or marital status, to name a few. As this list of victim groups expands, the universe of protected speech shrinks."

Phelps may nauseate us; he may turn that Wyoming park into a toxic wasteland with his homicidal homophobia, but the willingness to hear out his mental and moral weakness is a sign of our society's strength. The truest test of our convictions lies in our determination to apply the same standards to everyone, no matter how fervently we disagree with them, even if that means we must tolerate the intolerant.

As McMasters writes, we are not defending bad speech, but good principles.

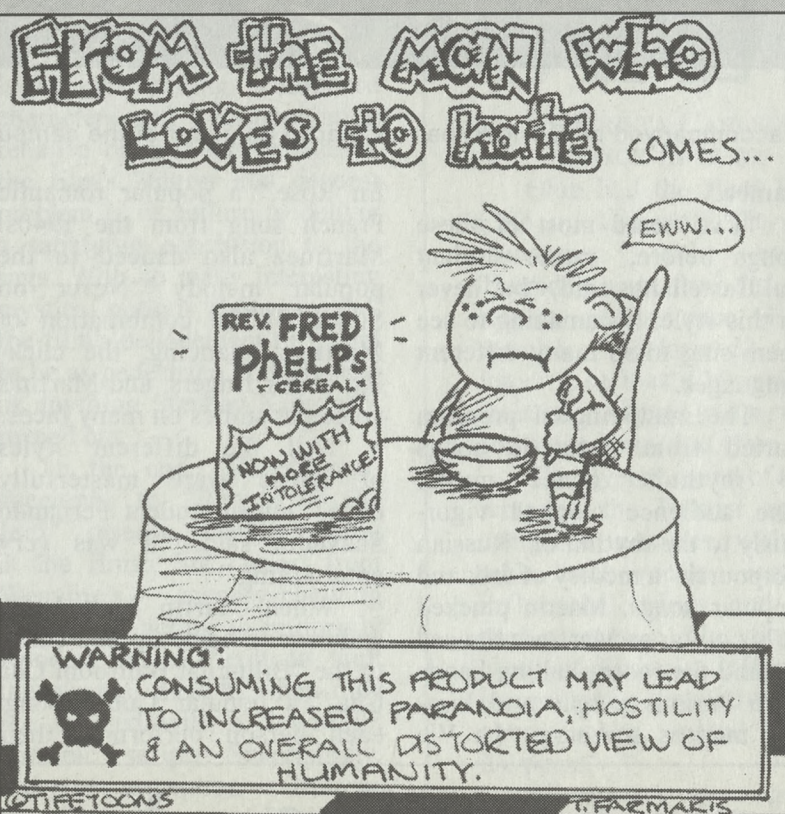


ILLUSTRATION BY TIFFANY FARNAKIS / VALLEY STAR

Casper.

Now what business does this sick, so-called 'man of God' from Kansas have moseying west to Wyoming and stamping his feet, preaching his crazed thoughts against gays? His only defense is his interpretation of the Bible and none other. It seems that anyone who disagrees with this man is a "fag," a person against God. What Casper needs is an invasion of anti-Phelps groups to pour in and drive him out of the city.

Sometimes it doesn't matter what the law says or what rights are granted due to prior experiences. There are cases where you have to stand up for what is right and against what is wrong.

In this case, a statue on public land promoting a Baptist minister's hateful crusade against gays is the wrong thing to do.

is that the First Amendment's ultimate purpose is to protect unpopular speech. In fact, Phelps' sentiments are certainly not unpopular everywhere. One CSUN student who acted in a production of "The Laramie Project" said during a recent visit to Laramie, he heard homophobic epithets casually tossed around in the very bar from which Shepard was lured to his death.

Phelps' proposed monument unquestionably constitutes hate speech. It seeks not only to excuse but glorify a hate-driven attack against a defenseless individual who had committed no crime.

But what end is achieved by silencing Phelps? Does releasing the genie of censorship provide some kind of magical balm for the social disease that killed Matthew Shepard?

"Punishing speech is not the same thing as curing hate,"

A Good Death

By KATHY ARELLANO
STAFF WRITER

"For everything there is a season ... A time to be born and a time to die." - Ecclesiastes 3

Edna is a 78-year-old woman who suffers from late-stage Alzheimer's disease. If

family members and doctors have their way, her body will continue to live in a nursing home while what is left of her deteriorating brain shrivels, leaving her truly mindless.

Edna forgot the names of her children and grandchildren a few years ago. The family wrote it off to old age. Last year, she forgot her own name.

Edna forgot how to eat with utensils and where the toilet was, using the hamper instead. She accused those closest to her of plotting against her.

She forgot about the importance of eating and taking medicine, refusing so often that she was hospitalized for dehydration and malnutrition. Her verbal skills are all but gone. Soon, she

will be unable to remember how to walk — how to swallow — how to breathe.

Edna is uncooperative and combative, kicking the nursing home staff as they attempt to feed her or change her bedding. She refuses food and frequently pulls the IV needle from her arm, leaving a bloody tear in her paper-thin skin. When her

family visits, she mumbles and shows no sign of recognition.

Alzheimer's disease is a terminal condition affecting 4.5 million people nationally, according to Alzheimer's Association statistics. Unless new treatment options are found, there could be as many as 13.2 million older Americans affected by 2050.

Yesterday, doctors made a small cut in Edna's abdomen and stomach lining, inserting a tube through which synthetic nourishment and pain medications will be administered. Her hands are tethered to protect the new tube. Sadly, this procedure will not improve her quality of life or reverse the mental deterioration, according to the nursing home doctor.

Edna has been my mother-in-law for nearly 37 years. It is difficult for the family to accept the reality of her impending death and to come to unified decisions about end-of-life wishes of which she rarely spoke.

Four of her five children have advocated heroic measures to keep her alive. They have expressed a vehement distaste for alternatives such as hospice care,

which would sanction her refusal of food. The four sisters voiced their own feelings of guilt at the mere discussion of the idea.

I disagree, as does her son. I want Edna to leave this world with her dignity and values intact, as peacefully and painlessly as possible.

I look at the insertion of the feeding tube as a gross violation of her person — not so different from a rape — merely a new orifice, created by doctors.

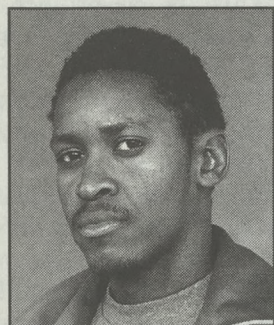
When I sort through family photos, Edna always surfaces as the sturdy, competent earth mother, surrounded by her own five children or the many others that shared her simple life. She has always given her quiet brand of love and loyalty to her family and her home.

Edna's grown children are impeding her natural progression toward a good death. With every "I would feel guilty," "or I couldn't live with myself," these people deny Edna the love and kindness they received from her all their lives.

To them I say, "She has a right to die peacefully — give her your blessings and let her go."

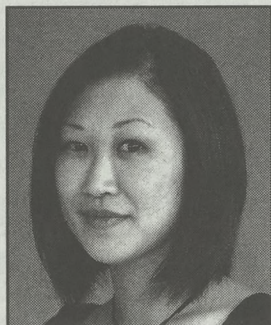
Campus View

PHOTOS BY BOB TEICHMANN



"Hell no. It's a dedication, no matter how you look at it, regardless of content. By no means is it an abuse of free speech."

Art Jefferson



"It should. I support free speech, but it's an abuse of it. You're prosecuting mankind and celebrating hatred."

Joanna Pattaphongse



"Yes. I don't think it's right. I don't feel you have to do that to somebody. I can't understand what they're thinking."

Mandy Jackson



"I think it should be stopped. It's discrimination. They should be treated like anybody else."

Nicole Perez

Should the Wyoming anti-gay monument be stopped?

STAFF EDITORIAL

Smoke ... and Mirrors

I come not to praise Tearrius George, but to bury him.

The Valley College football team's star defensive lineman, a preseason All-State selection, had his season abruptly cut short last week after being busted for possession of less than an ounce of marijuana. Ron Ponciano, head coach of the underachieving (1-8) Monarchs, told The Valley Star, "He is done. His career here is over. I wish him the best."

Apparently, George was not the first Monarch to be unceremoniously dethroned this season. The Star has learned that more than one football player has been weeded from the roster for rules violations.

If Ponciano had established a hard and fast rule that any pot bust for any amount would result in a player's expulsion from the team, then there is no argument that George should have been retained. The question is whether the policy itself is in the best interests of the player, the team and the school.

George is hardly a pathetic victim; after all, the alleged incident took place in a campus parking lot — in a red zone. That's just not a shining example of America's future.

But was his offense serious enough to be kicked off the team? Was he helping the terrorists or just getting a buzz on?

Too many times athletes receive special treatment despite some pretty gut-wrenching displays of sociopathic behavior. Nebraska's Lawrence Phillips had a string of domestic violence busts, Oklahoma's defensive unit fired automatic weapons off a hotel balcony and countless others have been caught taking steroids or skating by with less than honest academic efforts.

But what George allegedly did is hardly on the level of any of those examples, and each of those athletes was allowed to keep playing.

Assuming the charges are proven, did George make a foolish mistake? Oh, yeah. But was he caught cheating or using a particularly dangerous drug? He wasn't exactly shooting up speedballs or smoking crack. Nicotine and alcohol, now those are killers — and they're legal.

Pot has been stigmatized by opinion-makers despite its relatively low impact on its users' health, perhaps because there is no official marijuana-for-profit

industry sanctioned by the powers that be. It's so darn evil that Attorney General John Ashcroft has expended considerable government resources to harass and prosecute medical marijuana users, even in states where it is currently legal.

This is a college, where the message being sent to young people is paramount. And the Valley athletic department is to be saluted for declaring that winning isn't everything (redundant, perhaps, considering the team's record). But isn't another important message, especially for community college students — many of whom are starting over or taking run at prestigious four-year schools — that you can make a mistake, no matter how knuckleheaded, and learn from it?

Valley Athletic Director Chuck Ferrero told The Star that very few schools would want to recruit an athlete who is involved in drugs. Therefore, George's future is very much in doubt.

I'm not saying that George should get off scot-free, but this treatment seems pretty harsh. If he had, instead, been suspended for two games, forced to attend drug counseling, do community service and meet academic standards higher than when he was playing regularly, he could have played in the Monarchs' final game with his head held high. So to speak.

Ferrero said Ponciano took "the only position he could take."

Sounds to me like that position is next to the hole, dropping in handfuls of dirt, saying, "We wish you the best."

Ponciano and Ferrero may have rushed to judgment in their zeal to nip the problem in the bud, to keep the program — and their hands — clean.

All this over a misdemeanor, what deputies call a "ticketable offense."

You know what would have really been bad? If George had been caught cheating. To excuse steroid use, academic shenanigans, or worst of all — recruiting violations — that would send the wrong, wrong, wrong message to Valley's students. That would endorse winning at all costs. That would make a mockery of attending a community college in the first place. There's no rehabilitation for that.

Food for thought.

Mental munchies.

The Valley Star welcomes your comments and criticism. E-mail us at TheValleyStar@yahoo.com or drop us a line at B114. Be sure to include your name and contact information. Please limit your letters to 200-300 words. (818) 947-2576

CAMPUS SCENE

Wednesday, Nov. 12

Club Day

Armenian Culture Day
Monarch Square
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tech Fair

Campus Center
Monarch Hall
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 13

LAVC Jazz Band

Woody James, director
Music room 112, 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 15

President's Annual Gala

For Information, please call
Patrons Association
(818) 947-2700

Sunday, Nov. 16

LAVC Philharmonic Choir

Jennifer Kelly, conductor
"An Evening with Haydn
and Mozart"
Van Nuys First United
Methodist Church,
7 p.m.
\$10 general admission
\$7 students and seniors

Wednesday, Nov. 19

Student Opportunity Fair

Explore Your Career
Opportunities
Monarch Hall
5:30-7:30 p.m.

BURNING SONGS, PASSIONATE LYRICS



SALVADOR AGUILAR/VALLEY STAR

DUETO TROPICAL - Andrea Martinez sings "Cielito Lindo" as she is accompanied by David Kilpatrick Martin on guitar at the campus concert series. Beside Spanish, the duet can sing in French, Portuguese, Greek and Russian.

BY HARRIET STEINBERG
STAFF WRITER

Andrea Martinez and David Kilpatrick Martin welcomed audience participation even though it wasn't required during their lively performance Thursday in the music recital hall.

"You're really going to enjoy this program and will hear some familiar melodies," music chairperson Diane Wintrob said during her introduction of the duo.

The audience couldn't help but dance around the room while Martinez stomped her feet and sang as the rhythms of Martin's guitar resonated.

Martinez and Martin, both guitarists and singers, shared their musical contributions during the program as they harmonized and played their guitars together. They opened with "Traviesos Potpourri," a lively Spanish medley.

Martinez gave an emotional performance as she sighed intermittently while singing an English version of the Portuguese love song "Ipanema

Samba."

"I've heard most of these songs before," music student Sal Castellanos said, "but never in this style. It's amazing to see them sing in so many different languages."

The multi-lingual program varied from romantic songs to rhythmic dance music. The audience clapped vigorously to the rhythm of "Russian Potpourri," a medley of folk and popular songs. Martin plucked at his guitar as Martinez danced around the room shaking hands with various people and kissing men as she sang "La Vie

En Rose," a popular romantic French song from the 1940s. Martinez also danced to the popular melody "Never on Sunday." The combination of Martinez' dancing, the clicking of her fingers, and Martin's voice put smiles on many faces.

"All the different styles of music were masterfully done," music student Fernando Saavedra said. "It was very entertaining."

When Martin invited the audience to come up and dance to the "Bilingual Ballroom Cha Cha," a popular Cuban song, each person performed their

own interpretation of the dance. The free-style dancing and fun they had doing it brought some interesting responses from the audience. "Why didn't I bring my video camera?" Melody Cameon said as she watched the audience participants.

"I liked the 'Bolero' and 'La Vie en Rose,' but the whole program was charming and warm," music student Ricardo Beron said, amazed at how well they translated so many songs. "As a Spanish speaker, I realize how hard it is to translate songs and at the same time preserve the original meaning of the lyrics."

To Be Young, Gifted and Heavy into Bioinformatics

■ High Schoolers Attend Biotech Program

BY VINCENT BRUCIA
STAFF WRITER

Remember Saturday mornings when you were in high school? Lounging on the couch watching cartoons, playing video games, isolating DNA proteins.

No? Then welcome to the Valley College Biotechnology and Bioinformatics academies for high school freshmen, sophomores and juniors. Seniors can't attend the academies because it would be considered recruiting for the college, which is prohibited under the guidelines of the Minority Science Education Improvement Program grant that supports the program.

Bioinformatics is the marriage of biology and computer science, combining systematic biological data with the analytic theory of mathematics, such as the mapping of human DNA. "The definition of bioinformatics is constantly changing," Valley biology professor Pamela Byrd-Williams said.

The Biotech Academy consists of 25 ninth- and 10th-grade students who receive an introduction to the different careers they can obtain in science. They attend field trips to various science-related work sites and interact with industry professionals.

The program has attracted students from Valley's major feeder high schools — Van Nuys, North Hollywood, Grant and Polytechnic — but has also drawn from non-local high schools such as Sylmar and Canyon Country.

"The kids use the same kind of procedures as they do in a forensics lab," lab assistant Alex Moiseyev said. "It gives them a taste of what to expect so they can see if they can hack it."

The academies are held on Saturdays, spanning a six-week period each semester in the biotechnology lab in the life science building. The current semester's academy will graduate on Nov. 15.

In the past, the academy visited NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab, responsible for the Mars Rover, and students talked with an astrophysicist. They spoke to a marine biologist at the Long Beach Aquarium, the general curator at the L. A. Zoo and a food technician and microbiologist at the Anheuser-Busch plant.

"It's to the industry's advantage to create a pipeline and keep students on a focused educational track," Byrd-Williams said. "These students are its future work force."

"I didn't know there was such a wide range of careers in science, so now it's hard to decide," said Jany Alvarez, a sophomore at John Burroughs High School in Burbank. Alvarez is considering becoming a neurosurgeon and wants to go to the University of California, Los Angeles, but said if she doesn't get in right away she'll go to Valley first.

"I never realized there were so few chemists in the United States. They have to transport more in from other countries and they make a lot of money," Burroughs High freshman Melissa Alvarez said, a detail she learned on a field trip to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Alvarez wants to be a children's dentist and said she'll start college at Valley and go on to UCLA, like her older sister.

The academy's 24 11th-grade students are in the lab from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. working on the manipulation of DNA, the isolation and expression of proteins, polymerase chain reactions. They use computers

to analyze genes and proteins. The semester's top 10 students are invited to return for a three-week summer academy.

"We give them in high school what they normally wouldn't get until upper-division college level courses," lab assistant Lilly Brito said.

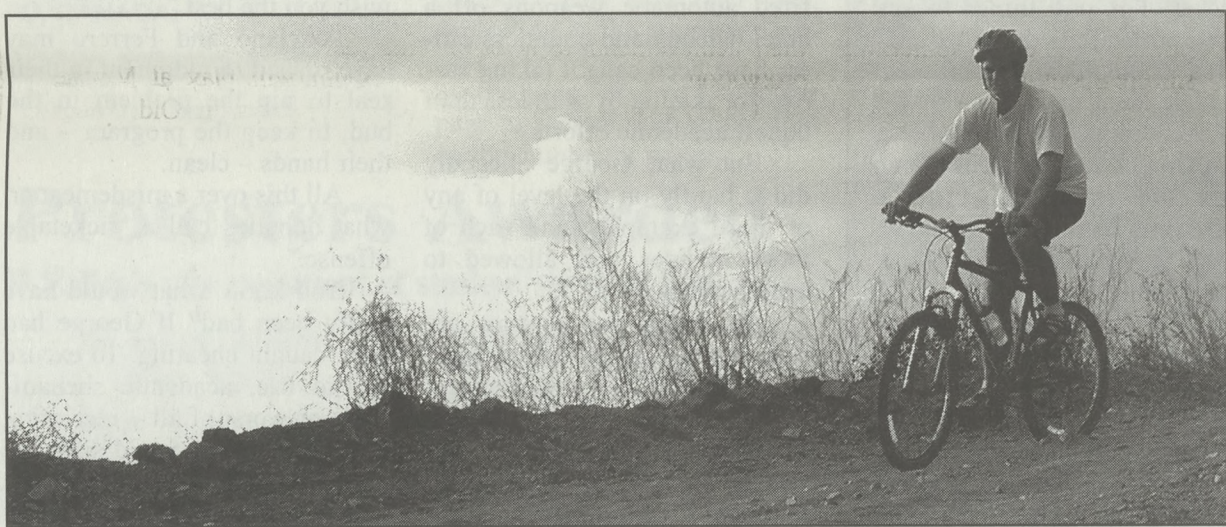
The main objective of the program is to get high school students excited about biology and to lay a track for them to obtain a career in the field. Once they complete the academies they are encouraged to choose Valley and join the biology program, which is supported by 13 full-time faculty members with backgrounds in marine biology, botany, microbiology, genetics and cell and molecular biology. Then they can either be certified to begin an entry-level career or can transfer through the TAP program to a UC or CSU school and gain an advanced degree.

Byrd-Williams and fellow biology professor Becky Green-Marroquin started the program two years ago with the support of Valley president Tyree Wieder and Dean of Economic Development Deborah di Cesare. Biology professor Paul Lonquich is the academy coordinator.

"This is a project I've supported beginning here at Valley," Wieder said. "If you check the latest information on emerging industries, the entire field of biotech and bioinformatics present wide open future opportunities for our students."

The MSEIP grant will end in the spring and the program's organizers are trying to secure future funding.

"California leads the world in biotechnology," Byrd-Williams said. "We're trying to help local students become a part of that."



IRENE KALENTS/VALLEY STAR

BIKING AND HIKING - A glorious view can be found hiking the Brand trail all year around.

Take A Hike:

BRAND TRAIL

BY KATHY ARELLANO
STAFF WRITER

To hike Glendale's five-mile-round-trip Brand Trail, you must move quickly through Brand Park's iron gates at the end of Western Avenue and not let your eyes devour the spectacular Spanish-Moorish-Indian architecture of the Brand Library.

One must put aside the secret desire to spend the entire four hours (hike time) in the embrace of great books, comfortable chairs and air-conditioned peace and quiet within the library's exotic arches and domes.

One must move quickly past the restored Victorian Doctor's House, another temptation of Brand Park, otherwise one might be drawn into its history and be forced to explore, rather than hike. Mountain bikers can catch the maintained fire road just left of the Doctor's House, according to Jerry Schad's "101 Hikes in Southern California."

Yes, the grass is lush and green, the shade under the giant oaks whispers, "Come, sit here, stay a while, bring a picnic and a friend, relax." One must resist the seduction vigorously.

The dedicated hiker must take great care not to be mesmerized by the "mystery woman of the canyon" who stands at the trailhead. Emerging from the center of an 18-foot-high-verdigris-finish cross is the bronze likeness of a beautiful young woman, clothed in 1920s Grecian style, tree stumps and fallen logs at her feet, arms outstretched, urging the masses to realize that "The forest is the mother of the rivers."

Just do it — Step onto that trailhead! Meet the challenge of a 1,500-foot elevation gain on Brand Trail. This is a "go for the burn" hike, not for the beginner.

"The trail is really steep for the first ten minutes of the hike, then it levels out, then gets steep again," Glendale hiker Brooke Applegate said. "There are places where you have to use your hands and legs to pull yourself up."

Brand Trail is one section of the Verdugo Mountains trail system that runs along the inner northeast edge of the San Fernando Valley. Ridges are hot and dry during the summer months, so visit this trail November through May for comfortable weather conditions.

The hills are home to snakes, lizards and toads. Mountain quail, Pacific horned owls and blue-fronted jays nest in the pine, oak and laurel trees or under the native and non-native chaparral, seeded by Glendale's founding father, Leslie C. Brand, original owner of the thousand acres that comprise northeastern Glendale.

From Valley College, you can take the Hollywood (170) Freeway south from Burbank Boulevard to the Ventura (134) Freeway east toward Pasadena, and exit at Victory Boulevard. Turn left at the end of the ramp and go to Western Ave. Turn right and follow Western up the hill to its end where you can drive into the multi-level parking lot at Brand Park.

You can also take Burbank Boulevard east (a 20-minute drive through town) all the way to the Golden State (5) Freeway south and exit at Western Avenue. Head northeast on Western to its end.

"The best thing about this hike is the view," resident hiker Jenny Ruiz said. "Most days, you can see Silverlake reservoir. Some people come to watch the sunset."

VALLEY LIFE

5

FILM REVIEW

THE MATRIX UNDONE

■ "Revolutions" disappoints on many levels.

BY MICHAEL ORDOÑA
OPINION EDITOR

"Everything that has a beginning has an end," the Wachowski brothers tell us over and over again in "The Matrix Revolutions." Unfortunately for this series, the end comes one movie too late.

"Revolutions" picks up where "Matrix Reloaded" left off; The machines are closing in on Zion, Agent Smith has hacked into the physical world, and Neo is in a coma. If you haven't seen the previous two movies and this doesn't make much sense to you, don't worry; you probably won't be seeing this one either.

Whatever the myriad flaws of "Revolutions," hats off to the Wachowskis for attempting a different kind of science fiction-adventure movie. Even more so than in "Reloaded," the writer and directors clearly place a premium on ideas rather than action. At a time when blockbusters roll off the assembly line every few minutes, it's refreshing to see something unusual.

As in the first two episodes, "Revolutions" tries to present interesting ideas about the nature of reality and perception while actively blending various philosophies. Even more so than "Reloaded," however, "Revolutions" stops the story dead in its tracks to convey these notions in studiously cryptic sound bites delivered by actors who often don't appear to know what they're saying.

The action of "Revolutions" comes in fits and starts, and never impresses. The Wachowskis are wise to recognize that the gee-whiz factor of the first film is long gone, so they have pretty much dispensed with the clockwork five-minute kung fu fights. In fact, Keanu Reeves' Neo barely breaks a sweat until his obligatory climactic battle

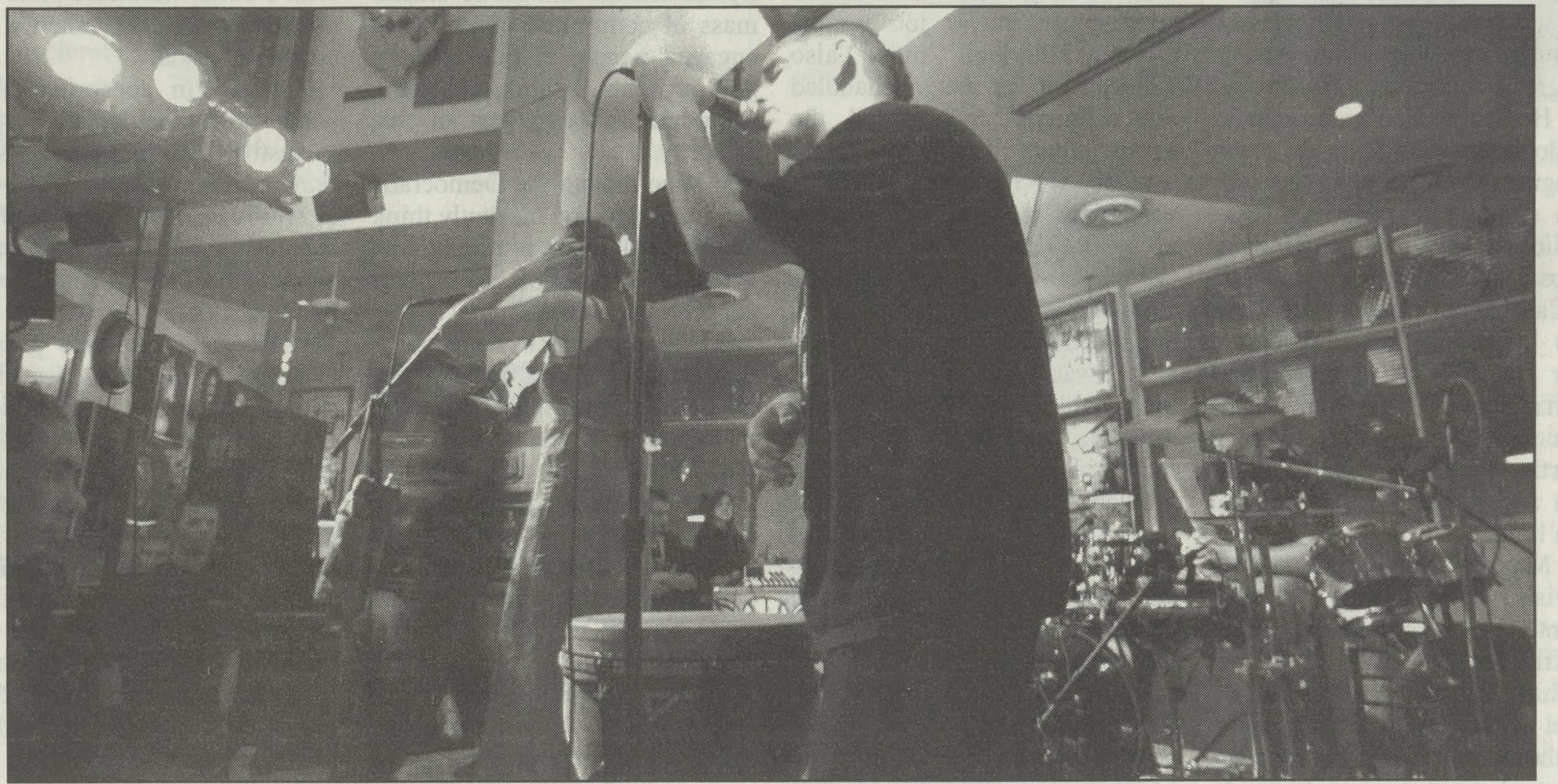
with Hugo Weaving's Agent Smith. Unfortunately, the fights have been replaced with over-long "Golly I love you, please don't die" scenes shamelessly scraping for unearned emotion.

It's hard to believe "Reloaded" and "Revolutions" were shot simultaneously, considering the total enervation of this installment. There isn't a single show-stopping action sequence in the movie, certainly nothing on the level of the epic freeway chase or amazing Agent Smith's battle of "Reloaded." What battles there are in "Revolutions" are anything but exciting and the lengthy last stand at Zion isn't exactly "Saving Private Ryan" or "The Two Towers."

Apart from frequently lugubrious pacing, cardboard characters and a disappointing reliance on war movie clichés, the film's biggest and deepest problem is its failure to deliver a satisfying conclusion to the saga. With so many interesting mystical notions flying around, the film's denouement turns out to be as pedestrian and illogical as anything Stephen King ever turned out.

In the end, "Revolutions" succumbs to "Return of the Jedi" disease, belly-flopping at the finish line. Apart from Weaving's scenery-chewing Smith, the acting is uniformly wooden. It's difficult to fault the players, though, when they are saddled with a downright entropic script. Surprisingly, the other exception is Reeves. Hardly the paragon of thespian dexterity, he manages to instill some much-needed humanity in Neo.

If you're looking for high-flying thrills and jaw-dropping special effects with some absorbing intellectual debate thrown in, you will not find them in "Matrix Revolutions."



GABY ALONSO/VALLEY STAR

IN THE SPOTLIGHT - Chris-Paul Basso of Ohm sings a song from the band's recent EP "Open Wide Sky," at the Hard Rock Cafe in Universal Citywalk Thursday.

ELEMENTAL SOUND

BY KRISTA CARLSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Ohm had the Hard Rock Café on Universal Citywalk resonating with energy Thursday night from its' passionate performance. Every member performed with ferocity, each as if by instinct; their efforts fused into a single entity recognized as Ohm.

The layered sound of Ohm wrapped the listener up in energized melodies, with its' multi-level vocals, eastern-influenced strings and layered percussion. The complex blend of dissimilar influences merges into a distinctive symphonic sound, unique among its' peers.

Miyamoto's keen guitar and Basso's and Terauchi's vocals led into the set, and when Gonzales and Alva kicked in with the rhythms bodies began to move throughout the crowd. The elements of Ohm's sound; Alva's punctuated bass playing, Mahina's soothing voice, Basso's deep

growls and stirring verses, Miyamoto's complex melodies and Gonzales' intuitive rhythms, kept the audience captivated through their nine-song set.

Band members Jagger-Bleu Gonzales (drums), Chris-Paul Basso (vocals), Mahina Yuki Terauchi (vocals), a student at Valley, Atsushi Miyamoto (guitar) and David Alva (bass) are agreed on the message of Ohm's music — Sincerity.

"We're always trying to not repeat ourselves," Gonzales explained, "We don't have any specific sound." The band explains that their main influence is world music. "I think of world music as something primal — There's something sincere about it."

Ohm's world music sound draws elements like Mediterranean strings, tribal percussion on congas, finger cymbals and tambourines, and Spanish-language vocals to produce an eclectic fusion of

sound. In addition, the band members draw from different parts of the globe — Atsushi came to California from Japan to play music, knowing only the words "let's jam," according to Terauchi, who also came from Japan to break away from a conservative and old-fashioned lifestyle, and Basso arrived in California five years ago from Connecticut.

The group has been playing the Los Angeles circuit since 2000. Through their efforts these guys have learned valuable lessons about the hard work it takes to break into the music world. "There's a lot of networking and footwork involved to build a following," Gonzales said, and credits their achievements to a lot of promotion.

Ohm has played with rock leaders System of a Down, Static-X, Linkin Park, Snot and other established groups. They've built a strong foundation in the Los Angeles club scene with sets at The Roxy,

The Troubadour and The Whiskey A Go-Go and made some noise on the local college level at Cal State Northridge and Woodbury University in Glendale.

Lately band members are listening to a lot of classic rock, including Pink Floyd, the Doors, Led Zeppelin and Black Sabbath. Terauchi has also been rocking out to Iron Maiden, Miyamoto's big on Dead Can Dance, Alva's got punk in the stereo, and Radiohead is a favorite of all.

Ohm has released four recordings, all independent, including "Open Wide Sky," recorded earlier this year. They are also planning to record another album by the end of the year.

Ohm will play at Moose McGillycuddys in Old Town Pasadena Nov. 13 with TEMPER (featuring members of Spineshank) and The Coma Structure. Although most of Ohm's shows are all ages, this will be a 21 and over gig.

"FIVE PROVOCATIVE SPEAKERS" Series Across Street from Valley

■ Jewish Community Center hosts Arianna Huffington, Scott Ritter, Steve Wasserman, Robert Sapolsky and Robert Scheer.

BY MICHAEL ORDOÑA
OPINION EDITOR

The Valley Cities Jewish Community Center directly across the street from Valley College will present a series of high profile progressive speakers in a fundraising effort for the center.

The roster includes commentator and recent gubernatorial candidate Arianna Huffington, U. N. Weapons Inspector Scott Ritter, Los Angeles Times Book Editor Steve Wasserman, world-renowned neurobiologist Robert Sapolsky and nationally syndicated columnist Robert Scheer. Each speech will be followed by an audience Q&A session and book signings. The guests, all appearing gratis, will speak in successive months through March 2004, starting with Huffington on Tuesday, Nov. 18.

"[Huffington is] in a class by herself," said Marlene Share, one of the series organizers. "There's nobody quite like her. She's absolutely brilliant and tremendously knowledgeable about a lot of things, not just politics."

Harriet Glickman, one of the event's chief organizers, said, "I was first aware of Arianna when she was writing articles that made me very angry; I disagreed with her every single time, until one day I read one and said, 'I

agree with her, there must be something wrong with me.'"

Huffington said of the event, "It's an important series and I wanted to be part of it."

The series, arranged by

needed funds for the center, but to provide a community platform for non-mainstream voices of some renown.

"They represent a different perspective, different from what

will agree with everything that's said. But discourse is really critical to your thinking and making decisions about what you're going to do politically. The purpose of this is to

"Frontier Justice: Weapons of Mass Destruction and the Bushwhacking of America."

Share said Ritter's book, "Should be required reading for every American. Here's a guy who came from the middle-right and says things like, 'The world can't afford another four more years of this kind of leadership, for lack of a better word.'"

Wasserman will speak on Jan. 20, 2004. His talk, entitled, "Is Serious Criticism Possible in a Mass Culture?" examines the role of the written word in our democracy and the future of literacy in Los Angeles.

On Feb. 17, 2004, neurobiologist Sapolsky will speak about a possible biological disposition to violence in humans.

The series will wrap up with Scheer, best known from the KCRW program, "Left, Right and Center," on March 16, 2004.



BETH DOWELL/VALLEY STAR

BRAINTRUST - Longtime VCJCC members Marlene Share, Harriet Glickman, Beverly Katz and Herman Katz put the "Provocative Speakers" series together to stimulate discussion. Glickman said, "Not everybody will agree with everything this is said. But discourse is really critical to your thinking and making decisions ... politically." The series begins Tuesday, November 18 with Arianna Huffington at the Valley Cities Jewish Community Center.

longtime Valley Cities Jewish Community Center members Share and Glickman along with Herman and Beverly Katz, is not only intended to raise much-

one might read every day in the newspaper," Glickman said. "And they are provocative. We hope to provoke discussion, we want questions. Not everybody

stimulate that discussion."

Ritter, who will speak on Dec. 16, is an outspoken critic of the Bush Administration and Gulf War II. His book is called

He has also written six books, including, "Thinking Tuna Fish, Talking Death: Essays on the Pornography of Power" and "With Enough Shovels: Reagan, Bush and Nuclear War."

The fundraiser will benefit the Valley Cities Jewish Community Center, which provides preschool and after-school programs, as well as other services to the community.

Co-organizer Harold Katz said, "Money is an issue as far as the Center is concerned. Its existence will depend on its ability to raise money, to survive. The Jewish Federation decided it was too expensive to keep funding the community centers [in Los Angeles]."

When asked why Valley students should attend the series, Share responded, "Without exception, I'd say every one of them is more interested in your generation than in ours."

"We hate to admit it, but as far as climbing the mountain, we're coming down the other side but you guys are still climbing," Katz added, laughing.

The Valley Cities Jewish Community Center is at 13164 Burbank Blvd. Tickets for Arianna Huffington on Nov. 18 are \$25 (\$20 students and seniors); series subscriptions are \$100, or \$150 for Patron subscriptions, including pre-event receptions with the speakers. For tickets and information call at (818) 786-6310.

'Arianna'

continued from page 1

Huffington will speak and sign copies of her books at the Valley Cities Jewish Community Center in Sherman Oaks on Tuesday, Nov. 18. Hers will be the first in a series of five fundraisers to benefit the center. The other four speakers, who will appear in successive months through March 2004, are also respected progressive glitterati.

Her checkered past includes a close association with Newt Gingrich's Republican revolution and her marriage to Texas millionaire Michael Huffington, whose 1994 campaign for one of California's U. S. Senate spots was by far the most expensive ever run to that date. Michael Huffington has since come out as a homosexual (the two divorced shortly after the failed Senate bid) and Arianna has come out as a liberal.

Marlene Share, one of the Jewish Community Center event's chief organizers, called Huffington brilliant and brave. "I think that, for someone at her level of [celebrity] who has been on the right, so involved in establishment right-wing politics, to stand up say, 'I was wrong,' takes a tremendous amount of inner fortitude."

Huffington recently spoke with The Valley Star's Opinion Editor Michael Ordoña, via telephone from New Orleans, where

she is working on her new book, "Fanatics and Fools." The book will be about the upcoming presidential race and the impact of California's recall election, and is set for a March 2004 release.

Valley Star: Recent polls show that college-age Americans approve of Bush's job performance, although most also believe that he has mishandled the economy and misled the nation about Iraq. At Valley College, we recently found that very few students had ever heard of the PATRIOT Act. With the exception of protests against the war in Iraq, it seems that students are becoming less and less politically aware and active. Do you believe this is true?

Arianna Huffington: Polls are increasingly dealing with the problem of response rates hovering around 30 to 40 percent. I think that a lot of people, especially younger, poorer people and minorities are hesitant to participate or are not even called.

I find that a lot of people — a lot of students especially — are recognizing what an important time this is. And they're not being fooled by rhetoric, although the politicians are getting better and better at it. I did a college tour during the campaign and [another one] across the country when "Pigs at the Trough," was published, and I found students

very engaged, very determined, really, to change our political system. Of course, they're self-selected people who come to my lectures, I recognize that.

But you know, change never comes from a majority, it always comes from a minority. So we only need what Martin Luther King called a 'creative minority' to change things. A critical mass of committed citizens and engaged people in this country. And students, I think, are going to provide a large part of that minority.

VS: Who among the Democratic candidates do you currently think would be the best president, and is that who you think has the best chance to beat Bush?

AH: I'm not going to be reaching that decision for a while since I've moved into my commentator-writer role again. I'm writing a book about them and the 2004 race. What I'm looking for is something I haven't seen yet — and this isn't just who's the one who has the most passionate and articulate critique of George Bush, but who is the one with the most compelling alternative moral vision. That's what it's going to take to defeat George Bush in 2004.

And that, for me, has to do with the fact that we're in desperate need of a new social contract that establishes our priorities as a country. Right now it seems that our priority is tax cuts, and what Bush considers a favorable

environment for business. We are ignoring the millions living below the poverty line, without health care, in growing fear of joining the millions without jobs. For me, this is what's going to have to be at the heart of a new moral vision. A New New Deal, if you want. I haven't really heard that articulated. You can't just defeat Bush with a better Medicare plan. You need a much more coherent and complete vision.

Also, I'm concerned about some of the candidates trying to justify their pro-Iraqi resolution positions. There, obviously, Howard Dean has the upper hand because he has been consistently against the war, as has Dennis Kucinich.

VS: Do you think it's possible to achieve something like a New New Deal with a Republican-controlled congress?

AH: Well right now we're talking about articulating it. Defining the debate around it. Right now, the debate is being defined by Bush and the Democratic candidates are responding to it.

Bush has defined the debate as an economy that despite \$500 billion in deficit, is sustaining a major military expense in Iraq and a third round of tax cuts. I mean, that is insane! (laughs) Now we're in the process of looking at billions more in corporate tax cuts.

VS: I wanted to talk briefly about education in California. It has tumbled to the bottom of

the country's educational rankings. Tuitions are skyrocketing at all levels, classrooms are overcrowded and teachers work more for less pay. And yet California is among the top states in spending per pupil. What should be done to rectify this situation?

AH: I'm hoping that the first act of Dick Riordan, when he becomes Education Secretary in the Schwarzenegger administration, will be to settle the lawsuit that the ACLU has brought on behalf of a million poor children who are going to school in intolerable conditions — with no textbooks, without bathrooms, with uncredentialed teachers. So that's definitely where we're going to put a lot of our attention.

On the positive side, I think it's very important to encourage more charter schools. Especially in urban, inner city areas, it's been a great success. If you look at South Central, if you look at the accelerated schools, they've been really successful so I'm hoping we'll have more of them.

VS: I'd be remiss if I didn't ask about your gubernatorial run — any regrets? What did you feel it accomplished? Did it broaden the debate or move forward the viability of third parties?

AH: It was a great adventure. I'm very grateful for the opportunity to raise some key issues which have now become very much part of the debate, [for instance,] the need for a different way to fund campaigns. I introduced the

Clean Money Initiative; I think public financing of campaigns is critically important.

Also, I introduced the need to mend and revisit Proposition 13, and we see that in the news again. Warren Buffett is talking about the need to protect the intent of Proposition 13, which was always to protect middle-class people and senior citizens on fixed incomes from huge increases in property taxes. But there's no reason to protect multimillionaires living in multimillion-dollar homes from paying their fair share. And we definitely need to look also at how commercial property taxes are assessed, and all of the loopholes that have been created there.

I feel really great about what we were able to achieve in two months with very little money, thanks to a lot of media attention.

For information about Huffington's appearance at the Valley Cities Jewish Community Center on Nov. 18, call (818) 786-6310.

BE IN THE KNOW

Read the Valley Star online at www.LAValleyStar.com
Sign up to have the Valley Star sent to your E-Mail

'Mentor'

from p. 1

Rita Saenz, Director of California Department of Social Services from Sacramento, told students that they would gain much more than a day of fun, food and entertainment. "Mentoring will change your life for the better," Saenz said.

Organizers created a child's heaven, filling Shepard Stadium with balloons, rides, animals, clowns and celebrities.

Mark Drummond, chancellor for Los Angeles Community College District, is a proponent of the mentoring program's plans to continue to encourage college partnership with Children Uniting Nations. Drummond believes that the program can help

break the cycle of dysfunction by helping children achieve socially and academically. "Through our continued involvement, I'm hoping that we can form a pipeline to garner future long-term mentors with these children," Drummond said. "CUN has the capacity to track and support relationships between our students and these disenfranchised children."

More than 320 Valley students volunteered to be mentors for the day, according to Valley President Tyree Wieder. "It's a wonderful way to give back to the community," Wieder said. "And I'm especially grateful to the faculty who supported this event by doing such a great job of encouraging their students to come out to be a part of it."

David Munoz, ASU member and business and music student, enjoyed helping his assigned foster-care children have a great time at the event. Munoz was a mentor to two young brothers, Jamel, 5, and Christopher, 6, spent the day with Munoz. "They're having fun and I'm having a great day. These two little guys are so cute," Munoz said. "I plan to be a long-term mentor. I feel good helping kids."

Dina Ross, Valley liberal arts student and Black Student Union member, was thrilled to be a mentor for the day. "When I heard about this program I wanted to sign up right away," Ross said, who was partnered with Angel, a bright eyed 11-year-old girl who loves to dance.

After enjoying their lunch together, Ross and Angel made their way to the main stage to bust a move to one of the great hip-hop acts that performed.

At the end of the day of ice cream, cotton candy, rock-wall climbing, roller-coaster riding, animal petting and music, every child received a backpack with school supplies and a CD player.

Daphna Ziman conceived the Day of the Child event and is an active child advocate, founder and chair of Children Uniting Nations, and a foster parent herself. In her closing remarks, Ziman expressed recognition and praise for everyone who participated, and encouraged students to register and to continue their involvement with the kids they spent the day with.

'Winter'

continued from page 1

students are advised to register early. Course catalogs are available at the information desk in the administration building for 50 cents. Due to the decrease in class offerings, late-adds won't be permitted.

"I'm glad that Valley is having a winter intersession," anthropology student Rochelle Marshall said. "It's good for people like me who depend on having both a summer and winter session to catch up on extra classes."

Although offerings are limited to just 71 there is still a wide range of classes.

"I'm one of those people that like to get things out of the way," Marshall said. "The quicker

you get out of school means the quicker you get a job, and being able to go home without having to worry about homework is a definite bonus."

Others see the winter semester as a time to take a break.

"I have enough stress to handle during the fall and spring semesters," business student Manny Esparza said. "I don't need to worry about the winter semester too. That's my time off."

For those students with more anxiety, having the opportunity to take extra classes is also a relief.

"We're really glad it worked out," Rubin said.

SO...
psychology, huh?

DON'T BE LEFT IN THE DARK
WHEN YOU PAY FOR COLLEGE.

There are 250,000 ways to pay for college with our Scholarship Channel.

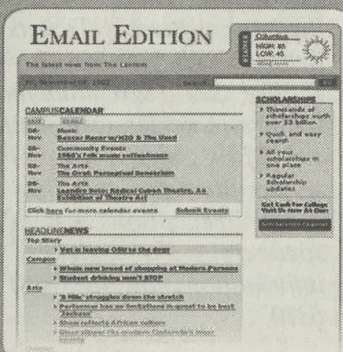
Search over 250,000 scholarships in our free database

Receive relevant scholarship updates through email

Increase your success rate through articles and advice

Way to go buddy.

You finally worked up the nerve to talk to that girl from Psych 101, but you still sounded like a doofus with nothing intelligent to say. That's where we come in.



Visit our website and subscribe to the Email Edition. You'll get the latest campus news, college sports, and calendar events delivered right to your inbox.

Filled with intelligent topics...
Subscribe to the Email Edition today!

www.lavalleystar.com

www.lavalleystar.com/scholarships

'Foreign'

continued from page 2

tion with 6,270 international students. New York, Texas and Michigan also have a high number of international students.

The government enacted tighter visa procedures after the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States because one of the hijackers held a student visa. Foreign students are now tracked upon arrival in the United States through the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services who report directly to the newly formed Department of Homeland Security.

"We are now seeing a bit of a drop in international student enrollment," said Tino Manzano, Associate Dean of Admissions and Records, "but we don't know if it's related to tighter visa regulations or due to the fact that we haven't gone out aggressively to recruit students for the program."

Valley's International Student Program is in transition but plans to enhance its previous program by adding an international student admission program and a marketing strategy, and by increasing services for students while they are in the United States, according to Manzano. The program also plans to introduce an international student club on campus.

"In California we saw a decrease in enrollment this fall semester due to class reductions, budget cuts and fee increases," Manzano said. "I don't think we can pinpoint the exact reason for the current decrease yet. I think we need to wait a few more years to really see whether foreign enrollment continues to decline."

The most popular fields for international students in the United States are business, management and engineering. After two years of very large growth, the number of international students studying mathematics and computer science has decreased by six percent.

'Grievance'

continued from page 2

board representation seems to stem from the belief that students don't have the competence or credentials to make decisions in matters questioning faculty performance, according to Divine and student leaders.

"It is our position that grades are under the preserve of the faculty," said Shannon Stack, director of media services at Valley, Academic Senate president and executive board member of the District Senate. "This proposal is actually a compromise. Originally we wanted only one non-voting student on the committee." Stack explained that the proposal is in motion through the various committees of the district. "We aren't finished with E-55 yet. These things take on a life of their own," Stack said. "The hope is that the new regulation will be an improvement over the current one once we're through with it."

'ID'

continued from page 1

ested in catching anyone who has been involved in anything prior to their employment that would be detrimental to our school," Jacobsmeier said. "The trick is if someone is not convicted, their prints are not available to us. If we can't get to these records, we're stuck."

CSUN has had the live scan program running for nearly five years now. In the beginning the program was difficult to staff and the continued demand for the service forced them to open seven

'Dean's'

continued from page 2

an education.

"Valley College was a second chance for me," Rubalcava said. He went on to mention that 40 years after attending Valley College he still remembers the names of the professors that inspired him.

"Find mentors to shorten or accelerate your journey," Rubalcava said. "With persistence and personal pride, anything can be accomplished."

After being away from school for nearly a decade, Presidential List recipient Fredrick Bertz spoke highly of Valley. His education enabled him to pursue his dream of being a history teacher.

"The teachers in the history department are amazing," Bertz said. "My overall experience at Valley College has been one of a caring faculty and supportive environment."

Although honorees had proven themselves as hard workers speakers reminded them to

not slack off on their efforts.

"Your futures are anything you make of them," Rubalcava said. "The path you're on is filled with greater awards and satisfaction in the long run."

Marian College-Van Nuys Campus

Accredited By The Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools
Now Offers
MEDICAL ASSISTING - 7 to 8 Months
PHARMACY TECHNICIAN - 7 to 8 Months
VOCATIONAL NURSING - 14 to 18 Months
(818) 782-6163

This institution has received temporary approval to operate from the Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education, in order to enable the Bureau to conduct a qualitative review and assessment of the institution after it becomes operational.

HYPNOTHERAPY

An ancient art, now a modern practice to accessing the subconscious mind to promote positive change and achieve personal goals

Janet Roberts, CHt
Certified Clinical Hypnotherapist
Affordable fees
818-606-6404 / fax: 818-982-6404

BARTENDING TRAINEES NEEDED

\$250 a day potential
local positions

800-293-3985 x 134

Do you need help with
intermediate or college algebra?

The end of the term is closer than you think

Get prepared now.

EXPERIENCED TUTOR
(818) 625-8423

BLUE MAPLE
blue maple
kathy beverly lead guitar, vocals
susan maltby rhythm guitar, vocals
tim maltby drums
Classic rock covers! Followed by Ozzie & Cult tribute bands
\$2 off with ad
@ PALADINOS
Friday, November 21 * 8:00
6101 Reseda Blvd. Tarzana
just 4 blks north of Ventura Hwy

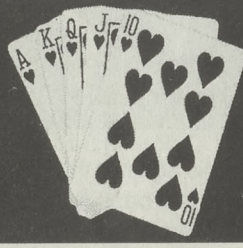
POTENTIAL.
LIVE UP TO YOURS.
An Associate Degree is just the beginning. How far you go is entirely up to you.
At DeVry University, you can get a Bachelor's Degree on your terms. Classes are offered days, nights, weekends, and even online at locations convenient to where you live or work.
Our goal at DeVry is to give you the education, skills, and confidence you need to reach your career potential.
DeVry University
THINK AHEAD™
© 2002 DeVry University. Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association (NCA). 30 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60602. nca.org/higherlearningcommission.org

BLOOD AND PLASMA
DONORS ARE ALWAYS
WINNERS AT PYRAMID
EARN EXTRA CASH \$\$\$



Help end the blood plasma shortage

-18 Years of Age
-Proof of Current Address
-ID Required
(Drivers License & Social Security Card)



6454 VAN NUYS BLVD. STE 151
(818) 756-2080
ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS
SAN DIEGO - COLTON - LAS VEGAS
Special fees paid to hepatitis B donors

Bring in this ad & receive a \$5 bonus on your 1st plasma donation!!

FUTURE...

The path you choose today
can lead to tomorrow's success.

State Compensation Insurance Fund

If you're ready to apply your knowledge and skills in the post-graduation job market, then toss your hat in with State Fund.

State Fund, the leading workers' compensation insurance carrier in California, is interested in graduates seeking opportunity and stability. We offer a wide range of positions throughout California, plus an environment that will foster your continued growth.

At State Fund you'll find exceptional benefits, professional training to expand your horizons, and many advancement possibilities.

Learn how you can join us by visiting www.scif.com or by contacting Human Resources at 415-565-1722. Then launch your career with State Fund and rise to new heights.

Career opportunities may be available in:

- Marketing
- Communications
- Underwriting
- Claims
- Loss Control
- Business Services
- Customer Service
- Legal
- Information Technology
- Finance and Accounting
- Human Resources
- Administration

**STATE
COMPENSATION
INSURANCE
FUND**
Get More. Worry Less.™

State Fund is an equal opportunity employer.

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD
WORLD'S LARGEST MOVIE STUDIO AND THEME PARK™
Holiday jobs
you'll get totally caught up in.
Put the YOU in Universal.
Spider-Man™, appearing in our explosive new rock n' roll show Spider-Man Rocks™, has an excellent sense of the fun, friends, perks and swinging good time you'll have with a great holiday season job at Universal Studios Hollywood. You'll see just how much fun it is helping people from all over the world have the time of their lives.
We're currently hiring for:
• Food Stand Attendants
• Sales Associates
• Parade Hosts
• Show Control
• Cooks
And Many Other Fun Opportunities.
To see where you fit in at Universal, please visit www.universalstudios.com/jobs or you may apply at the Staffing Office located in the heart of Universal CityWalk, on the second floor, adjacent to the water fountain. Our hours are Monday through Friday, from 9am to 5pm. EOE.
It's a big universe. Where do you fit in?

"THIS IS MY STORY"
TUPAC RESURRECTION
IN HIS OWN WORDS
PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENTS AN MTV FILMS/AMARU ENTERTAINMENT, INC. PRODUCTION "TUPAC: RESURRECTION" EDITOR RICHARD CALDERON DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JON ELSE
CO-PRODUCERS LINA LAPOUT MICHAEL COLE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SHAKUR VAN TOFFLER DAVID GALE PRODUCED BY PRESTON HOLMES KAROYN ALLI LAUREN LAZIN DIRECTED BY LAUREN LAZIN
"Tupac: Resurrection" The Album
Featuring New Music by
TUPAC SHAKUR • THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.
50 CENT AND EMINEM
Available on
Amaru Interscope Records
FOR FULLER RESPONSE, GO TO WWW.TUPACFILMS.COM
THIS NOVEMBER
MAIN PHOTO BY CHR MOU

SPORTS

WWW.LAVC.EDU LAVCSports@YAHOO.COM

WSC FOOTBALL

Pirates Sieze Monarchs' Sinking Ship

■ Monarchs drop to 1-8, setting up a showdown up with fellow cellar dweller Pierce College.

By JAYSON ADDCOX
SPORTS EDITOR

The Monarchs accumulated 15 penalties and managed only one touchdown in a 31-7 defeat at the hands of the Ventura College Pirates Saturday. The disappointment of another losing season continued as the Monarchs' offense struggled to get the ball in the end zone and committed four turnovers.

"I'm disgusted," Head Coach Ron Ponciano said. "The penalties were crucial, we kept getting penalties on first down, and on defense we got penalties when we had them on third down."

The Monarchs scored first taking the early lead in the first quarter for the first time this season. Quarterback Kevin Arbuckle hit receiver Don Daniels in stride for a 34-yard touchdown pass and catch with 7:36 left in the first quarter. The touchdown grab energized the crowd and appeared to spark the inept Monarch offense.

"It's great to get in the end zone," Daniels said. "But it was early in the game and I knew we needed to stay humble."

The defensive unit came out poised to keep the Monarchs in the game, forcing the Pirates to punt on their first three

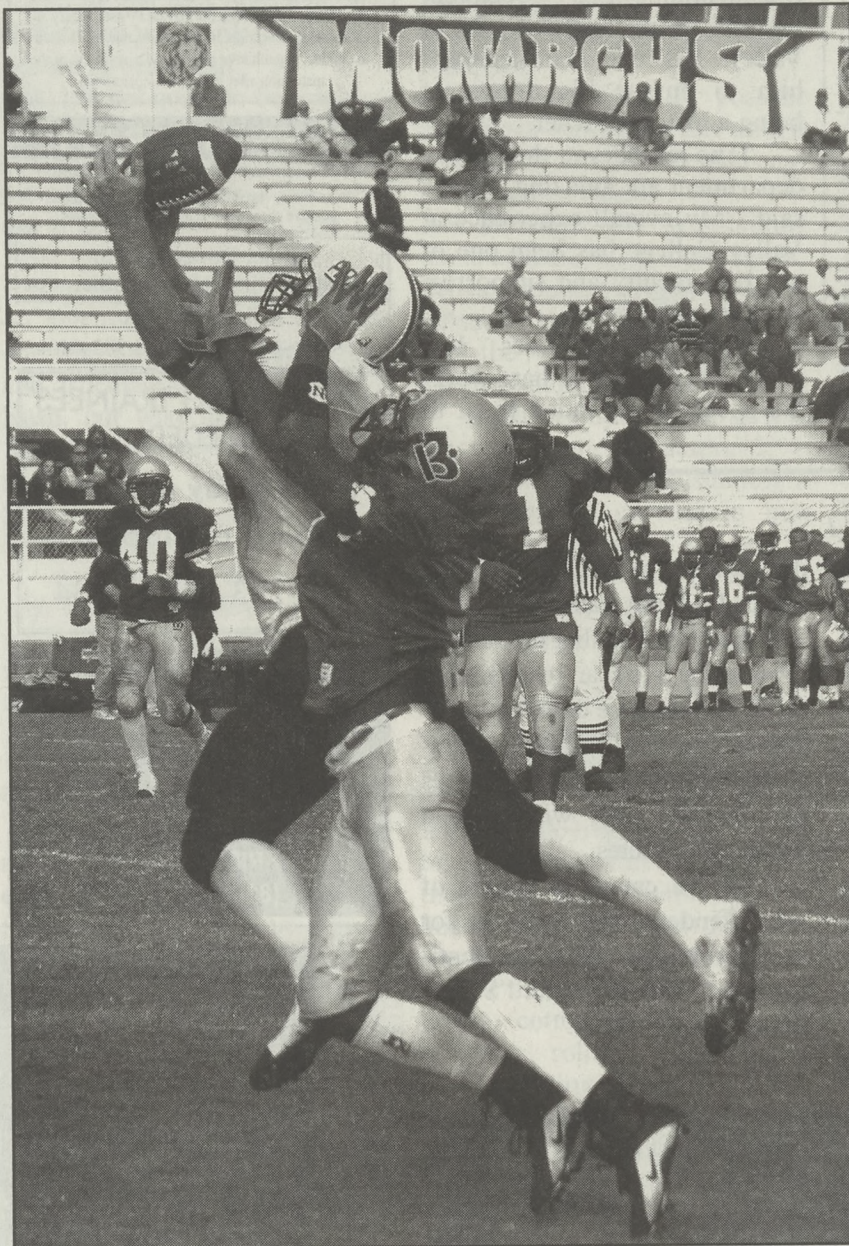
possessions and recovered a fumble on another. However, after backup quarterback Paul Hines threw an interception near the end zone late in the first quarter the momentum shifted, deflating the Monarchs and energizing the Pirates.

"The defense worked hard, but we made too many mistakes today," said cornerback Richard Brown, who had an interception.

The Pirates made a 28-yard field goal to get on the scoreboard early in the second quarter. Three minutes later Ventura quarterback Jack Swisher completed a 39-yard touchdown pass to receiver Brandon Chavez to take a 10-7 lead. Four minutes later the Pirates struck again, this time on a 6-yard screen pass from quarterback Swisher to tight end Asa Hagy. The Monarchs turned the ball over on their ensuing possession and the Pirates capitalized scoring another touchdown to end the half up 24-7.

"Defensively we put ourselves in a position to win, we blitzed a lot and put pressure on them early. The penalties just killed us," said D'Andre Good, who had seven tackles, one sack, one hurry and an interception in the game.

Pierce Brahmas Monarch Stadium, Valley Glen, CA ■ Saturday 1 p.m.



JORDAN DINAPOLI/VALLEY STAR

DIVING FOR HOPE - Valley opened the game against the Ventura Pirates Saturday with a seven-point lead, but the Pirates' passing game lead to 31 unanswered points. The loss dropped the Monarchs to 1-8 overall.

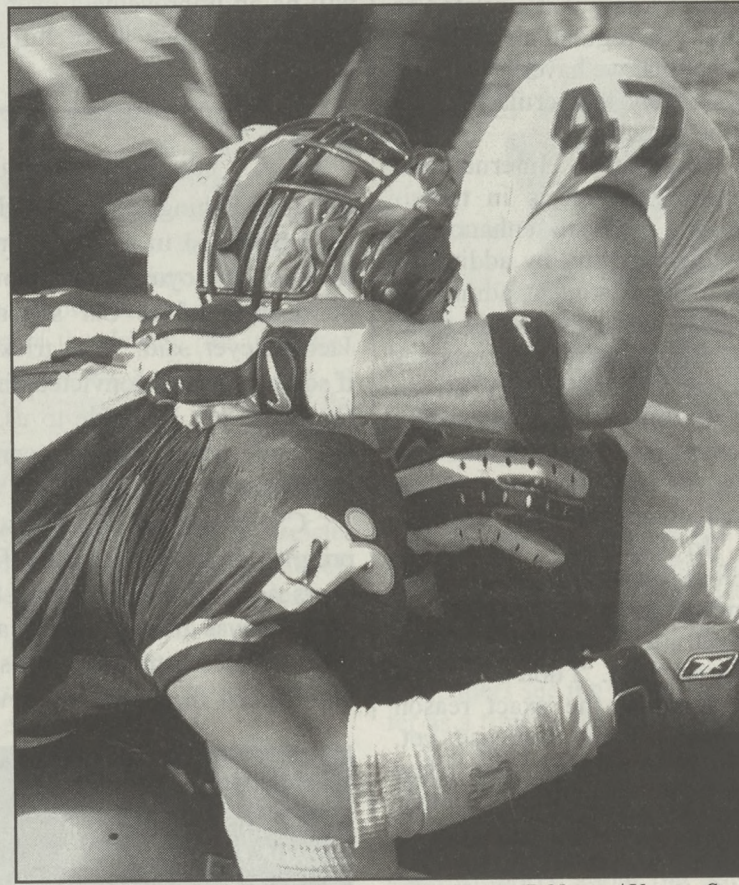
FOOTBALL

Upcoming Schedule

Los Angeles Valley College

Western State Conference

Opponent	Date	Time
Pierce	11/15	1 p.m.



JORDAN DINAPOLI/VALLEY STAR

FIFTEEN - The number of flags thrown in the game against the Ventura Pirates almost outnumbered the number of fans in attendance Nov. 8 at Monarch Stadium.

LAVC SCORES

Football @ Hancock (L 44-9) 11/1/03 Record: 1-7

T. George suspended for remainder of season for drug possession

Soccer vs. Pierce (L 0-3) 11/7/03 Record: 7-8-3

WSC Water Polo Championship 11/8/03

Water Polo (w) vs. Citrus (W 12-9) Game 1

Water Polo (w) vs. Ventura (W 7-4) Game 2

2003 Western State Conference Champions CURRENT RANKING: Eighth in California

W. Basketball vs. Orange Coast (L 44-60) 11/7/03

Denise Wilson: 17 pts, 6 rb, 3-6 ft

Meca Ani: 10 pts, 5 rb, 3-3 ft

Roxy Quintero: 7 pts, 4 ast, 2 rb

WBB Record: 1-2

LAVC SCHEDULE

Wednesday 11/12/03

Men's Basketball @ Fullerton all day

Thursday 11/13/03

Men's Basketball @ Fullerton all day

Women's Basketball @ Merced all day

Friday 11/14/03

Men's Basketball @ Fullerton all day

Women's Basketball @ Merced all day

Saturday 11/15/03

Men's Basketball @ Fullerton all day

Women's Basketball @ Merced all day

Football vs. Pierce 1 p.m.

Sunday 11/16/03

Men's Basketball @ Fullerton all day

Tuesday 11/18/03

No Scheduled Games

PRO SCORES

L.A. Lakers @ Memphis Grizzlies (L 95-105) 11/10/03

Shaquille O'Neal: 20 pts, 12 rb, 3 blk

Karl Malone: 13 pts, 9 rb, 4 blk

Kobe Bryant: 19 pts, 5 ast, 9-10 ft

LAL Record: 5-2

L.A. Clippers @ Denver Nuggets (W 104-102) 11/7/03

Corey Maggette: 29 pts, 10 rb, 4 ast

Quentin Richardson: 23 pts, 5 rb, 2-2 ft

Marko Jaric: 13 pts, 8 ast, 5 st

LAC Record: 1-2

L.A. Kings @ Washington Capitals (W 3-1) 11/10/03

GOALS: LAK - Klatt 2, Avery 1

LAK Record: 8-5-0-1

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

E-mail Valley Star Sports at
LAVCSports@yahoo.com
or go online at
snap.to/lavcsports

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"Every opportunity we get, we have to take shots away from them. We need defensive energy."

Mike Muro,

Women's basketball coach, to his players during a timeout in the second half Friday at the Mt. Sac tournament.



Photo by Bob Teichmann

Back to the People's Court

■ Women's basketball starts the year on the road.

By BOB TEICHMANN
STAFF WRITER

After a long summer respite, the Lady Monarchs basketball team is back with fresh faces and a fresh attitude.

The Monarchs started off the year by playing on the road Friday at the Tip Off Classic at Mt. San Antonio College. The three-day event included some of California's most talented teams.

With the memory of last season's upset loss at the state championship in the University of San Diego not far behind, the Monarchs were looking for all they could chew.

Game 1

Valley opened the tournament against the defending state champion Orange Coast Pirates. OC had 11 freshman, but didn't play like rookies as they beat Valley 60-44.

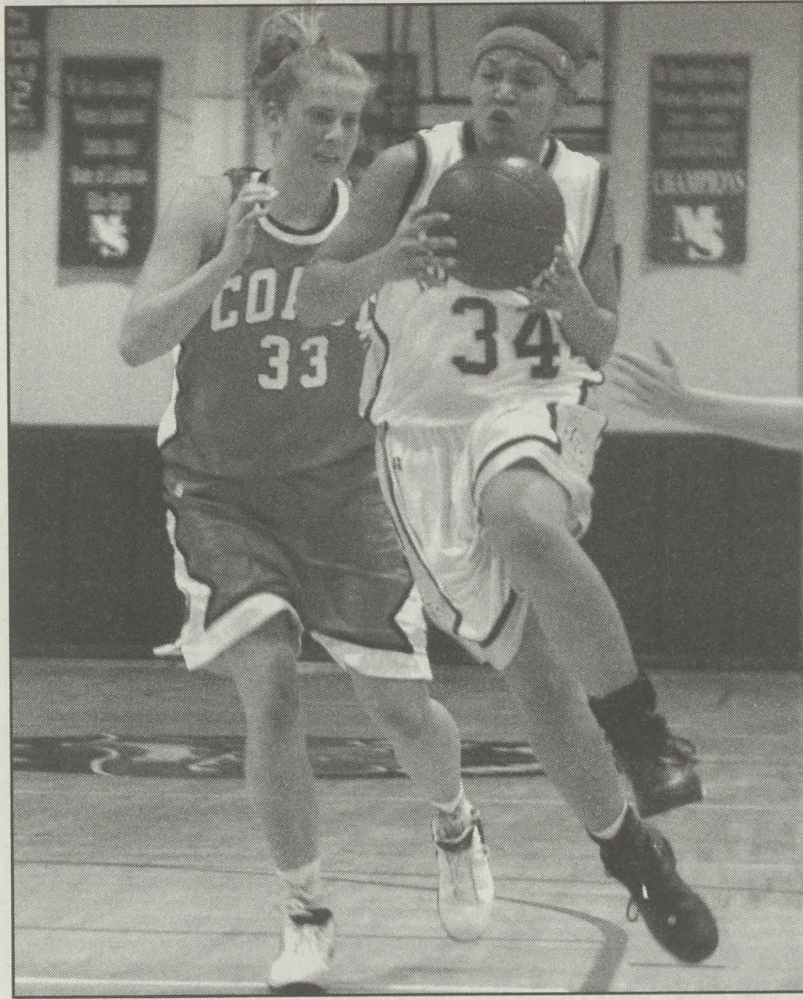
"We've got a young team this time around," head coach Mike Muro said. "Our ladies maintained their composure even though they had the state champs in the way."

The Pirates opened strong with forward Stacey Sanchez scoring immediately after tip-off. Monarch forward Roxy Quintero was soon to follow with a pull-up jumper from 10 feet.

A scare for the Monarchs came with one minute left in the first half when guard Meca Ani was forced to sit after Pirate forward Blava Arganda poked her eye. Valley finished the half down 38-29.

Monarch forward Denise Wilson led a brief rally with 11 of her 17 points coming in the second half, pulling down six rebounds in the process.

"Look to the side," Wilson said while on the court. "If you're not open, don't expect it."



JORDAN DINAPOLI/VALLEY STAR

UP AND UNDER - Valley guard Meca Ani, 34, drives past Orange Coast forward Rhondi Naff and goes in for a layup Friday in Game 1 of the Mt. Sac Tournament in Walnut.

OC took advantage of a 3-minute Valley drought and outscored them 22-15 in the half.

Game 2

Denise Wilson led a drive for the Monarchs to make up for their loss by defeating the Southwestern Jaguars 75-62.

Wilson came out with improved numbers by bringing in 24 points and shooting 8-of-8 from the free throw line.

The Monarchs outscored the Jaguars throughout the game, leading by six points at the half.

Valley went 10-of-11 from the line in the second half, compared to 11-of-18 by the Jaguars.

Forward Roxy Quintero scored a big 16 points with one three pointer, going 3-for-4 from the foul line. Guard Meca Ani had eight points by shooting flawlessly at 4-for-4.

Game 3

On the final day of the Classic, the Saddleback Gauchos rode the Monarchs all the way into overtime and beat them 64-59 to win the consolation prize.

Saddleback guard Kimberly Martin led all scorers with 22 points, shooting 5-of-10 from the free throw line, and bringing down six rebounds.

Valley led after the first half 33-18, but Martin lead the Gaucho rally with 11 second-half points, sending the game into overtime.

Monarch guard Meca Ani was hit with more bad luck when she landed hard on her right knee.

Gaucho guard LeSheala Dawson drilled a three pointer, and the Monarchs only scored four points, all off free throws.

Saddleback made 4-of-6 free throws and Martin drilled a 10-foot jumper to seal the victory.

NOTES

NFL

The Philadelphia Eagles defeated the Green Bay Packers in a rainy Monday Night Football game 17-14. Donovan McNabb threw a six-yard touchdown pass to Todd Pinkston with 27 seconds left.

NFL

New York Giants tight end Jeremy Shockey will be on the injured list for six to eight weeks with a partially torn ligament in his left knee. Shockey limped off the field late in the 27-7 loss to the Atlanta Falcons Sunday.

WTA

Kim Clijsters beat Amelie Mauresmo 6-2, 6-0 in 52 minutes Monday at Staples Center to become the first player since Steffi Graf in 1996 to win back-to-back titles at the final tournament of the professional tennis season.

WTA

Women's tennis chief Larry Scott is not discounting reports that the season-ending WTA Championships is likely to leave Los Angeles for China after it completes the third year of its contract in 2004. The tennis championship finishes its second season at Staples Center this week.

NBA

Defending champion San Antonio Spurs retired the No. 50 jersey of long-time center "Admiral" David Robinson in a postgame ceremony Monday. Robinson retired at the end of the 2002-2003 season following 14 seasons with the Spurs.

NBA

Charles Wang, founder of Computer Associates and owner of the NHL's New York Islanders entered a revised bid to buy the New Jersey Nets without disclosing the details.

NBA

Cleveland Cavaliers guard DeJuan Wagner will be out for three months after having surgery on his right knee. Wagner hasn't played since entering training camp for the 2003 season.

MLS

The San Jose Earthquakes beat the Los Angeles Galaxy 5-2 in overtime Sunday to win a berth in the Western Conference championship.

SPORTS

9

WWW.LAVC.EDU LAVCSports@YAHOO.COM

Women's Water Polo Wins WSC Title

■ Women's water polo wins Western State Conference championship and advances to the postseason.

By JAYSON ADDCOX
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Monarchs completed conference play undefeated (7-0) and beat Citrus College 12-9 and Ventura College 7-4 over the weekend to capture the Western State Conference Championship.

"It's hard to win a championship in this conference," Head Coach Bill Kraus said, "especially with teams like Ventura and Cuesta in the league."

In the first game of the conference tournament the Monarchs went head-to-head with Citrus, a team it had defeated earlier in the week by one point. Megan Winchell lead the way scoring five goals and Jesse Stiles added four of her own in the 12-9 victory.

"I'm just glad we won," Stiles said. "I wanted to contribute to the victory, it feels good to win."

The Monarchs advanced to the finals against Ventura Saturday. Both teams battled to take the lead in a tight game. The Monarchs opened the fourth

quarter with a 4-3 lead but it didn't last long. The Pirates scored quickly to tie the game, setting up a classic final quarter showdown for the title.

The Monarchs answered the bell with three goals in the final minutes. Sammy Zuckerman scored on a tip shot and Megan Winchell scored two goals on the Monarchs' counter-attack. The final barrage of goals put the Pirates away and distinguished the Monarchs as the champions.

"I was really nervous going into the game," Winchell said. "I knew if we all played together we would step up and come out with the championship."

Ventura plays an unorganized style of water polo, however their speedy swimmers and solid goalie make them a very tough opponent, Kraus said.

Valley plays Mt. San Antonio at Citrus College today at 3:30 p.m. If the Monarchs defeat the Mounties they will advance to play the No. 1 team in the state, Long Beach City College.

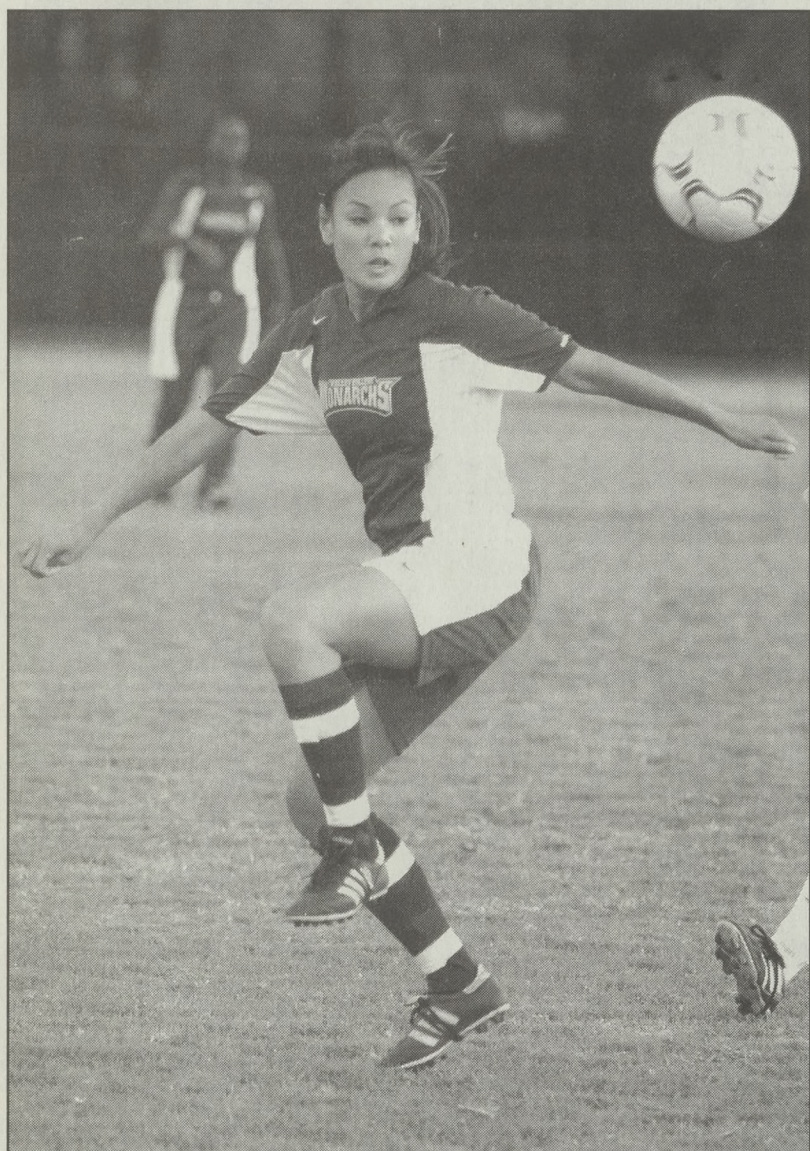
"We beat [Mt. Sac] by one early in the season so it should be a great game," Winchell said.



BOB TEICHMANN/VALLEY STAR

ANALYZING THE SITUATION - Monarch 2-meter Jessie Stiles gazes at the leader of the offensive line at Santa Monica College. The Lady Monarchs water polo team won the Western State Conference title Saturday in two games.

AN IMPROVED SEASON



JORGE GALLEGOS/VALLEY STAR

EYE ON THE BALL - Monarch midfielder Sara Struckoff waits to control the ball Friday in a game won by the Pierce Brahmas 3-0 Friday in Monarch Stadium.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

E-mail LAVC Sports at
LAVCSports@yahoo.com
or call
(818) 947-2576

Game From a Higher Authority

Running backs coach Dave Buchanan leads on and off the field.

By JOHN TARR
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

A cool breeze blew across the football field on a crisp autumn night, making fans and players alike tighten their grip on sweaters and jackets. Dave Buchanan watched his team struggle in the waning minutes of the game and an obscure thought danced through his head: He loves his mother.

The Valley College Monarchs scored 21 points in the fourth quarter against the Moorpark Raiders but lost. The players walked off the field with their heads down after another defeat dropped their record to 1-4. Most of the Monarchs' coaches wore disappointment on their faces but Buchanan, the running backs coach, had a wide, bright smile.

Buchanan has played in the National Football League, the Canadian Football League and has coached for nearly 20 years. He has learned a thing or two about winning and losing. The most important lessons, however, came from his mom.

"Mom was Christ personalized," Buchanan said. "What we read about in the Bible we saw mom live - the suffering, her faith and her trust in God."

His father died when Buchanan was about 4 years old. He still remembers the funeral vividly. His mom never remarried, raised nine children on her own, and never let the kids forget their father was a great man. The family became a team in which the older children helped the younger ones, especially reading the Bible.

Mario Rico, a student of Buchanan's seven years ago, is now the women's softball coach at Cerritos College. "I've picked up a lot of things from him," Rico said. "He's a good person to talk to outside of coaching. He uses his experiences to help kids avoid his mistakes."

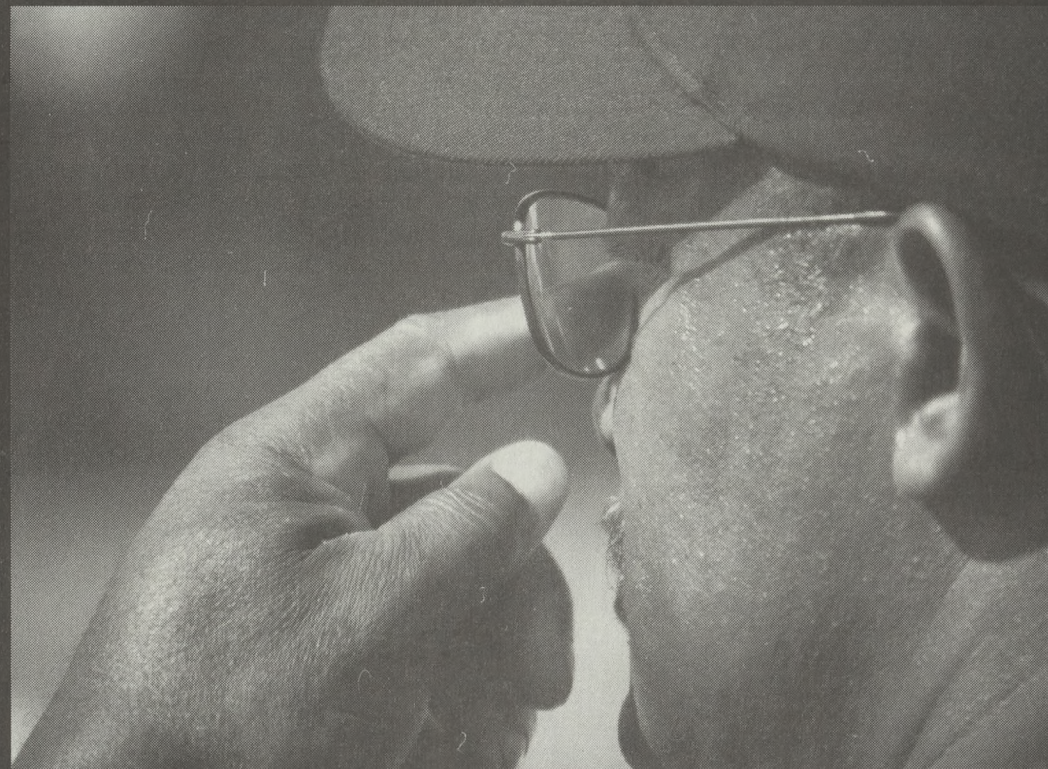
One of the mistakes Buchanan made was leaving the Cincinnati Bengals after he made it through training camp and was placed on the practice squad. It was 1972 and he was eager to play in the spotlight. He left the Bengals and signed a contract with the Hamilton Tigercats in the Canadian Football League. After being named to the Canadian equivalent of the Pro Bowl he thought he would be on the road back to the NFL.

However, due to contract stipulations he found himself instead playing for the Honolulu Hawaiians of the World Football League and then the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the CFL. Buchanan retired from professional football in 1975 after a five-year career.

He returned to school, completing his bachelor's in only three years; he then earned a master's in education from Azusa Pacific University. Teaching and coaching became his passion.

"I couldn't think of anything easier," he said. "I love health classes. I would teach all the health classes but they won't let me."

"Coach," as Buchanan is simply called by his players, wears a smile like others wear clothes. At 5-feet-8 with 228 pounds of muscle on a solid frame, he looks every inch a former NFL running back who still works out religiously. He can often be found in sweat pants and white T-shirt, round glasses accenting his bright eyes. He doesn't look like a typical teacher, nor does he teach like one.



BOB TEICHMANN/VALLEY STAR

FOCUSED - Running backs coach Dave Buchanan looks on the team takes on West L.A. at Homecoming Oct. 18.

He expects students to understand concepts and apply them rather than merely memorizing facts. Admonishing his class to think critically, he said, "People just walk around like they're half asleep following everybody else."

This style can be quite unusual for students expecting an average college health class. Buchanan told his class on the first day that it's not unheard of for him to fail a third of his students.

"He holds his students to a higher standard," Rico said. "He doesn't give anyone a break in the classroom, especially athletes."

Buchanan offers plenty of encouragement as well, as when he told Luis Soto, one of his running backs and health students, that Soto could play in the NFL one day. A wide grin crossed Soto's face.

"Coach is a smart man, he's played in the NFL, he has the experience and he knows what it takes," Soto said. "He's a man of his word, a man's man, you have to respect him."

Billy Parra, Kennedy High School's football coach and another of Buchanan's former charges, said, "I love the guy. He's a total mentor. I'd like to be like him - I got into coaching because of him."

Parra attributes his associates degree, and those of just about the entire '92 Monarchs offensive line, to Buchanan. Valley didn't have an athletics guidance counselor then, so Coach stepped in to fill the need.

"He takes kids under his wing and guides them," Parra said. "His door is wide open for personal training, help with academics, even personal problems."

On a warm October afternoon, a cool breeze blows the sweet scent of grass, determination and dreams across the Monarchs' practice field. Buchanan greets his players with a warm smile and firm handshake.

Head Coach Ron Ponciano watches the practice from halfway up a light tower and yells down an occasional sarcastic remark. The offensive and defensive coordinators get frustrated with their play-

ers' efforts. They holler at them to hustle, quit walking and start running, get off the ball more quickly. The practice speeds up and the plays become live. The crunching sounds of pads and bodies fill the air. Ponciano derisively says it sounds like a pillow fight.

Meanwhile, Buchanan corrects his players without bellowing. "Get in there - If I'm a scout I want to see contact, don't be afraid. That's it! Right up in there!"

Buchanan yells encouragement to his players and corrects them quietly on the side. He laughs with them and hugs them after they give maximum effort.

Most coaches and players would take being on the losing end of a football game pretty hard but Buchanan tells his players they deserve to lose if they don't practice with their whole hearts during the week.

"I'm not trying to be negative," he says, "I'm just calling a spade a spade."

He tells his players that since they didn't practice well they have to eat moldy bread. Now is the time to plant seeds so next time they can eat good bread.

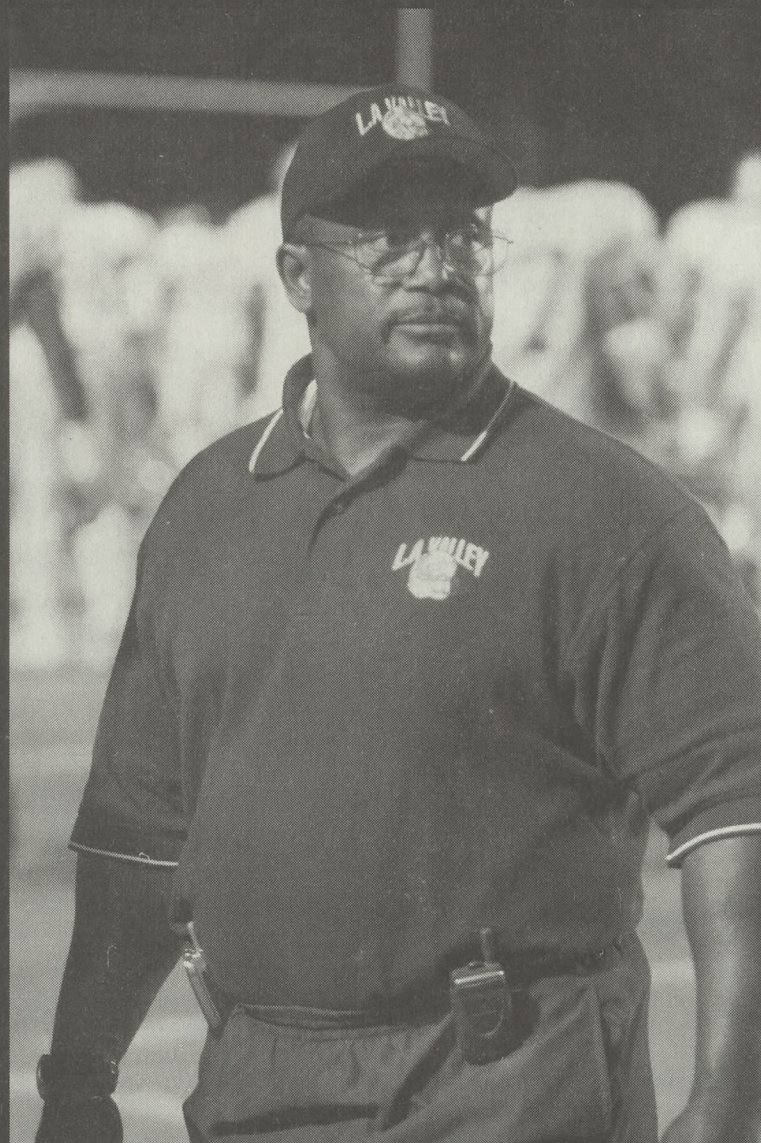
Buchanan likes to show his players a pyramid chart with the high school athlete at the bottom and the NFL at the top. Each level gets tighter and tougher. The top is small, cramped and highly competitive. He preaches this approach to both athletes and non-athletes: one must think the way a successful person would.

"That means behaving in every respect of his being as though he is a professional: in the classroom, in the weight room, on the practice field, and in the game," reads the chart.

The ball is snapped. Mario Soto runs through a hole in the defensive line and slips a tackle. "Just like I taught him," Buchanan whispers with pride.

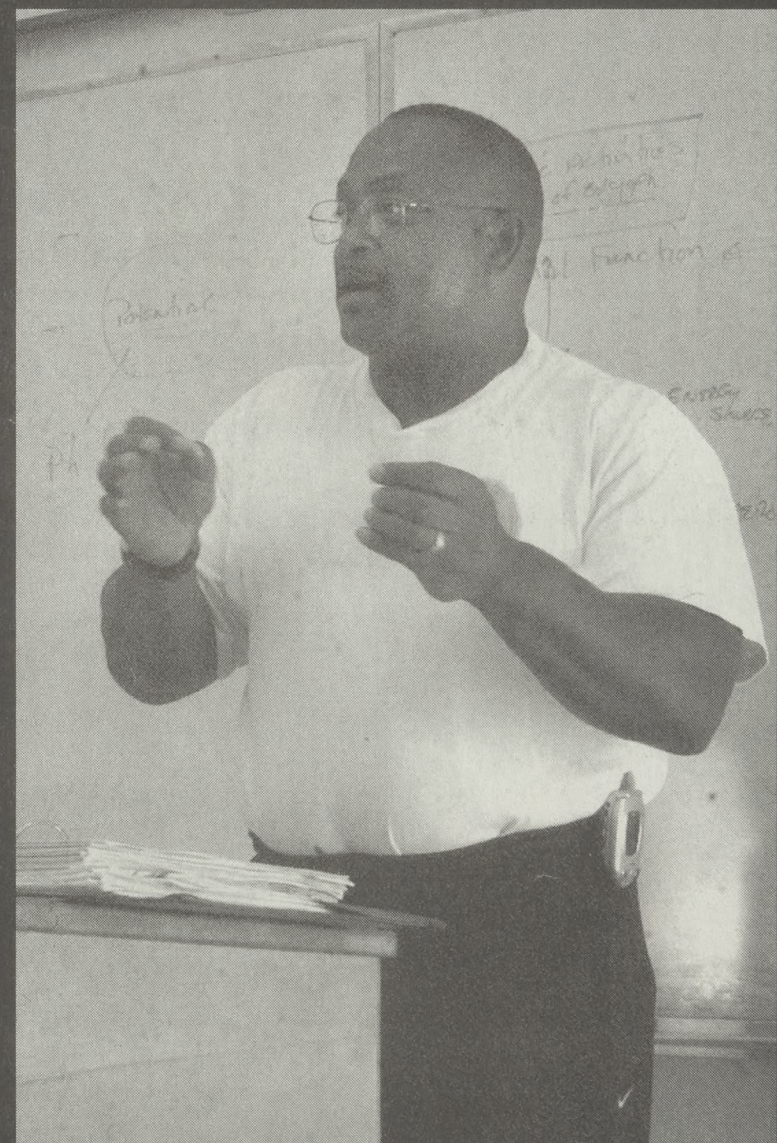
Coach's mom would probably say the same about him.

ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE



BOB TEICHMANN/VALLEY STAR

ON THE FIELD - Dave Buchanan pays full attention to what goes on with the football team on and off the field at Bakersfield Coliseum Sept. 27.



GABY ALONSO/VALLEY STAR

IN CLASS - Aside from his time spent coaching, Dave Buchanan teaches health classes and is considered one of the most popular instructors.

GALLERY

CHILDREN STEALING THE SPOTLIGHT

PHOTOS AND LAYOUT BY IRENE KALENTS, TEXT BY BENJAMIN FAVELA



Children were the stars at the Day of the Child at Pierce College Sunday. The event featured a petting zoo, rock-wall climbing, a Ferris wheel and cotton candy. See story, page 1.

Clockwise from top left: After a lot of obstacles in a gauntlet, Vallencia emerges as the winner; Kimberly admires her new face paint done by an event worker; a clown is about to announce the winner of the silly string competition; A little boy tries to balance on a ball with the help of a clown; Valley student Kristina Gray cradles Alma Gonzales in her arms after an eventful and exhausting day.

